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SESSION 1944
HOUSE OF COMMONS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

ON

RECONSTRUCTION AND RE-ESTABLISHMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 9

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1944

WITNESSES:

Miss Kathleen Moodie, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources;
Mr. D. J. Allan, Superintendent, Reserves and Trusts Services, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources;
Mr. T. R. L. MacInnes, Secretary, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources;
Mr. R. A. Hoey, Superintendent of Training and Welfare Service, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources;
Dr. Percy Moore, Superintendent of Medical Services, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources. ✓

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1944

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, May 24, 1944.

The Special Committee on Reconstruction and Re-establishment met this day at 11.00 o'clock, a.m. Mr. J. G. Turgeon, the Chairman, presided.

The following members were present: Messrs. Bence, Castleden, Ferron, Gray, Hill, MacNicol, McDonald (*Pontiac*), Matthews, Nielsen (Mrs.), Quelch, Richard, Ross (*Calgary East*), Ross (*Middlesex East*), Sanderson, Turgeon, and Tustin—16.

In attendance was Mr. W. J. F. Pratt, private secretary to the Minister of Mines and Resources.

Miss Kathleen Moodie, in charge of handicraft, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, was called. She made a statement to the Committee, exhibited numerous articles made by the Indians, was questioned and retired.

Mr. D. J. Allan, Superintendent, Reserves and Trusts Services, was recalled and further examined, particularly with respect to beaver and muskrats.

Mr. McIvor, by leave, briefly addressed the Committee.

The Committee adjourned at 12.50 p.m. to meet again at 3.00 o'clock p.m. this day.

The Committee resumed at 3.00 o'clock, p.m. Mr. J. G. Turgeon, the Chairman, presided.

The following members were present:—Messrs. Authier, Bertrand (*Prescott*), Black (*Cumberland*), Brunelle, Ferron, Fraser (*Northumberland*), Hill, MacNicol, McDonald (*Pontiac*), Nielsen (Mrs.), Rickard, Ross (*Calgary East*), Ross (*Middlesex East*), Sanderson, and Turgeon—15.

Mr. Allan was recalled and further examined. The witness retired.

Mr. T. R. L. MacInnes, Secretary, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, was called, examined, and retired.

Mr. R. A. Hoey, Superintendent of Training and Welfare Service, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, was recalled, further examined and retired.

Dr. Percy Moore, Superintendent of Medical Services, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, was called, examined and retired.

Mr. Allan, on behalf of himself and the other witnesses, thanked the Committee for the opportunity of placing before it the problems of Indian administration.

The Chairman thanked the witnesses for the enlightening evidence they submitted. Mr. MacNicol and Mrs. Nielsen also expressed their appreciation of the evidence and hoped much good would result therefrom.

The Committee adjourned at 5.45 o'clock, p.m., to meet again at the call of the Chair.

J. P. DOYLE,

Clerk of the Committee.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

MAY 24, 1944.

The Special Committee on Reconstruction and Re-establishment met this day at 11 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Mr. J. G. Turgeon, presided.

Appearances:

Mr. D. J. Allan, Superintendent, Reserves and Trusts Service, Indian Affairs Branch;
Mr. R. A. Hoey, Superintendent of Welfare and Training Service, Indian Affairs Branch;
Mr. T. R. L. MacInnes, Secretary, Indian Affairs Branch;
Dr. Percy Moore, Superintendent of Medical Services, Indian Affairs Branch;
Miss Kathleen Moodie, in charge of handicraft, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, we will start the proceedings immediately. First of all I would like to ask a question about maps. You might remember, at the last meeting, Mr. Allan distributed a report together with maps attached, in connection with some phases of Indian Affairs. Now, two of the maps are missing, and if anyone has them would he kindly let us have them back later, because Mr. Allan requires them in his work.

We have with us to-day in addition to Mr. Hoey and Mr. Allan, Miss Kathleen Moodie, of the Indian Affairs Department, and in view of some of the questions that have been asked I thought it might be well if we proceeded first, for a short while, with respect to the questions that have been sent in, which deal, more or less particularly, with art and handicraft and education and cultural activities.

As soon as that is over I thought we would have Mr. Allan again, in order to deal with other phases of work that are planned and that might be suggested by us, which would be of benefit to the Indians and of benefit to the whole national economy.

Mr. Hoey, would you like to have Miss Moodie make a statement now?

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Miss KATHLEEN MOODIE, in charge of handicraft, Indian Affairs Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, called:

The CHAIRMAN: Miss Moodie?

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, it seemed easier to prepare a statement covering the various phases of the questions which were asked, rather than deal with them individually, with each part of them.

SUMMARY OF HANDICRAFT AND HOME INDUSTRIES PROGRAM

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

When the Handicraft Section of the Indian Welfare and Training Service was organized in 1937, worthwhile handicraft projects as such had ceased to be a factor on a large number of Indian Reserves in Canada. At this time, at least one-third of the Indian population were in receipt of relief. We did

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not expect then, nor should it be expected now, that by the establishment of craft industries employment could be provided for more than a limited number of Indians, but such projects can greatly help out the family budget, particularly by providing employment for elderly Indians and for 'teen age boys and girls.

In 1937, the primary object was to assist destitute Indians by helping them to produce and market such goods as would find ready sale. This was accomplished in a number of reservations, and relief costs were lowered while the Indians themselves acquired a better living.

With the younger Indians, particularly in districts where native materials were no longer available, training was given in arts not too far removed from their traditional types of work. For instance, at Caughnawaga, near Montreal, where former generations had been in the habit of weaving tump-lines, cedar-bark mats, and so on, the girls received training in loom weaving, and took to this work so readily that a number of them won prizes in proficiency and design.

A metal-craft project was started for 'teen age boys attending the Mount Elgin Indian Residential School at Muncey, near London, Ontario. The boys were using rather primitive tools, were reviving traditional designs, and the project was progressing in a most encouraging manner at the outbreak of war, when it became impossible to secure metals.

By Mr. MacNicol:

Q. Did you say metal?—A. Yes. I have here a metal plate which was made by the boys at Muncey, using very simple tools. We have had quite a large number of this type of thing.

By Mrs. Nielsen:

Q. What is that—How do they make them?—A. They made a little wooden mould and turned them over, this way (indicating), and whacked them out.

Q. On the usual pitch blocks?—A. Yes, they hammer them. They were doing very well until the outbreak of war and they had to stop because they could get no more metals. Samples of quartz, agate, and other colourful Canadian stones were secured from the Mines Branch, and were used by the boys in the production of rings, bracelets, etc., and there is a great field for extension in this connection—using rose-quartz from Manitoba, and various other stones procurable in Canada.

It must be remembered that all Indians are not interested in arts and crafts, and certain groups of Indians would resent very strongly—and have already resented—any attempt to establish craft projects on their reserves. They take the position that such projects represent an attempt to drag them or push them back into a mode of living to which they have no desire to return. I think it would be just as difficult to organize similar projects in a fashionable suburb of this city, as in, say, Ohsweken or Tyendinaga. That is, Brantford and Deseronto.

We discovered early in the organization of this work that there were two distinct and separate schools of thought in this country with respect to craft work—and what should constitute genuine craft work. There are those who take the position that Indian crafts are something distinct and apart, and easily recognizable, and which should be encouraged from a cultural standpoint apart altogether from the commercial value of such products. The members of this school of thought attach tremendous importance to Indian designs, Indian silver-work, Indian pottery, etc. The members of the second school of thought take the position that Indians should be retained to produce on their reserves, craft products which will enter into the ordinary channels of trade, and for which there is a constant demand.

To a limited extent at least, an attempt has been made to incorporate the policy advocated by both schools of thought. For example, about three years ago, Miss Alice Ravenhill, then head of the British Columbia Folk Arts and Crafts Association, was instructed to prepare a set of charts displaying the Indian designs of British Columbia. These charts were completed, reduced to a suitable size, and photostatic copies were distributed to a number of Indian residential schools. The distribution of these charts represents an attempt to encourage an appreciation by the pupils of Indian designs and traditional motifs. However, it must be emphasized that not all Indian pupils are interested in Indian culture or in Indian arts and crafts, and in this sense they do not differ from the average white child.

I have here a set of charts which were prepared and sent out to the different schools. Perhaps later on some of the members of the committee might like to look at them.

The CHAIRMAN: You might just pass them around.

The WITNESS: We have attempted to open a market in this part of the country for the beautiful and lasting British Columbia baskets, as well as totem poles, Cowichan sweaters, and hand-made silver bracelets, but have not been successful. The chief difficulty appears to be the price which the high quality of workmanship and design calls for. As an example, I might mention that several years ago we sent to the Indian Commissioner for British Columbia for twelve hand-made silver bracelets. We could not dispose of even this small quantity, and it was necessary to return them to the Indian Commissioner. I believe there is some sale for such bracelets in British Columbia, but am not in a position to express an opinion on this point.

Another thing I might mention is in connection with the Cowichan sweaters; we found that in this part of the country they were too warm. They are water resistant and they are wonderful things to be worn in coastal areas. We had thought that they might be worn for skiing in this part of the country, but they were found to be too heavy.

As for handwoven goods: our experience is that there is not any extensive market for materials with symbolic designs, which are difficult to weave and cannot be marketed at a reasonable price. There is, however, an extensive market for handwoven ties, tweeds, squares, towels, place-mats, hangings, etc., and many young women can be provided with employment, *providing* they are permitted to produce what the Trade wishes to order. I have found that Indian workers seem to have a greater feeling of pride in producing goods which are sold on merit, than they have in producing so-called Indian designs—in fact, many of them feel that they are being told how to think, when such designs are suggested. I have been asked by more than one Indian girl how I would like it if I were "everlastingly pushed" into drawing, weaving, and thinking of nothing save a Thistle simply because my father happened to be Scotch.

Now, here I might show you some of the Indian designs which we made a strenuous attempt to have used. You will notice the Algonquin double curve motif, which design was mentioned in one of the questions. The girl who wove this design took a day and a half in order to weave enough material for this bag. The instructor told me that the piece actually did not have a value of more than \$1.50.

By Mr. MacNicol:

Q. What would it retail at?—A. It should retail, I suppose, at \$3. I do not know whether a woman would pay that much for it.

Q. Would she pay \$1.50 for it?—A. I sold some of them for 50 cents; I had two or three dozen of them and I could not interest people in them.

Q. What are they used for?—A. Knitting bags. If it had been made of yarn it would have been worth a lot more money. When the Indians weave

tie material, such as this, a sample of which I have here—these are some ties for which the material was woven by Indian girls—they can weave from five to seven yards a day, for which they are paid from 60 to 75 cents a yard.

Q. In length?—A. There is a width on the loom, and the material is woven across the loom and then cut on the bias, in order to make ties.

Q. How many ties can be made out of one yard?—A. Four.

Q. And they get 75 cents for all that?—A. They get, depending on the pattern, from 50 to 75 cents a yard. One girl said that she wanted to put together colours and so she made this plaid material. In one of the questions I notice that we were criticized for allowing them to make plaid ties. It is not a fault at all, because the Indians see white boys and girls running around the streets wearing Indian costume and so they themselves think it is a matter of courtesy to buy Scotch costume or some other national costume. They do not see why they should be prohibited. Now, these bags are made according to designs that they worked out themselves.

Q. They are very strongly made. What would these retail at?—A. We have had to sell them at \$4.25, although they cost \$3.75. That means, of course, selling directly to the customer without any middle man at all.

Q. Are they hand made?—A. Oh, yes; all hand-woven.

Q. Suppose that equipment were provided for them, could they produce them for much less?—A. No. They have the necessary equipment, and they produce that material on looms which we provided. It is the cost of the yarn and the type of weaving that enters into the question. Now, in the case of bags, you have to do a special form of weaving, which is very tiring and slow.

Q. At what reservation were these made?—A. Caughnawaga and some at Muncey.

By Mrs. Nielsen:

Q. I visited a high school where the head mistress was very much interested in weaving, and she had hand looms brought over. I myself have demonstrated weaving in some of the museums in England, and I would like to say that I would not want to have to sit down and weave that bag, having regard to the great strain on the eyes. Weaving cannot be so much of a hobby to these poor people. It is a terrific job, and I would like to say just one word about the terrific patience that is takes and the strain upon the sight, and all the rest of it. Those bags are beautiful as works of art. They are wonderful. I know.—A. One should be well fed and well housed before he goes in for hobbies.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I think you have the key to the situation there.

Mrs. NIELSEN: They should have enough money to house themselves properly, without having to sell these articles at the price that they are selling them.

The WITNESS: Who wants a heavily beaded belt like that? It is art, but I do not want one. I would like you to look at the number of stitches in that, for instance. Now, take these beaded gauntlets. There is a sale for them to the tourists, but no tourist ever buys a second pair.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Yes!

The WITNESS: They will never buy a second pair because they are terrible dirt catchers. On the other hand, we have Indian women who can make gloves like these (indicating a pair of conventional gloves), which I have had for years, and I clean them when they get dirty with a ten-cent bottle of carbolic. There are many white women who will buy them.

Mr. MacNICOL (examining beaded gauntlets): They are wonderful, simply wonderful!

The WITNESS: They are lovely gloves.

Mr. MacNICOL: Gloves like that should be given to our officers. The government should buy thousands of sets of them to be given away to our officers, such as majors and colonels, and so on. This sort of thing attracts tourists. Did they make these too? (Indicating conventional gloves.)

The WITNESS: No, those I bought, but an Indian woman at Muncey copied the pattern and she and others can make them well. As for attractions, it might amuse you to know that when I was in school we heard that there was a member from the west who wore tight pants and a big hat, and we all came out to see him.

Mr. MacNICOL: It was Glen Campbell. Was he Indian?

The WITNESS: Yes, he was part Indian, and he had the biggest hat I ever saw, and he had his picture taken out by Queen Victoria's statue, together with a bunch of youngsters from our school.

Now, I was mentioning the handwoven goods, and I said that there was not any extensive market for them in Canada, that is, for these symbolic designs, which cannot be marketed at reasonable prices. Here I might read an extract published on June 11, 1943, from the evidence of the United States Committee on Indian Affairs.

Extract from findings of the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, June 11, 1943 (Report No. 310), "Survey of Conditions among the Indians of the United States".

Page 17. "While the original aim was to make the Indian a citizen, the present aim appears to be to keep the Indian an Indian and to make him satisfied with all the limitations of a primitive life. We are striving mightily to help him recapture his ancient, worn-out cultures which are now hardly a vague memory to him and are absolutely unable to function in his present world. We non-Indians would not try even, to recapture our glamorous pioneer culture though it might be done without great sacrifice, and though the adjustment in attitude and desires could be made with far less difficulty than the Indian would have in holding on to his rapidly receding past, to say nothing of his ancient past.

The Bureau has been concerned with building up a system instead of service; attempting to build self-perpetuating institutions; making material improvements for the Indian Service at the expense of Indian life; furnishing physical relief that was not needed nearly so much as economic and civic encouragement; breaking down assisting agencies; segregating the Indian from the general citizenry; condemning the Indian to perpetual wardship; making the Indian the guinea pig for experimentation; grouping the Indians for convenience of supervision for which they are presumed to exist; tying him to the land in perpetuity; forcing a conventional type of education on him; attempting to compel all Indians to engage in agriculture and stock raising under the supervision of an extension department which is an end in itself."

Now, that is in a report having to do with a survey of conditions among the Indians in the United States. It is Report No. 310.

By Mr. Ross (Calgary East):

Q. To what extent does that apply in Canada?—A. I don't think I can answer that question.

Q. That is the object of the department, now?—A. No, I do not think it is the object of the department, but there are times when it looks as though it might develop that way. I do not suppose I should be speaking about things of that sort, but I am particularly interested in it in view of the fact that I cannot see why Indians should be compelled to produce "art" goods before they have a living. I have a little Indian basket here from British Columbia.

Now, that is a lovely little basket and it takes days to gather the roots for it and it takes days to work out the design, but in spite of that I do not suppose you could get more than \$5 for it, at the very best of times. I think that is beautiful and I think it would be well to keep alive a certain ability to produce that sort of thing among well-fed people.

Mr. MACNICOL: Yes, give them a chance to have better housing conditions. I have become a bit impatient, sometimes; I do not see why we should force Indians to do that.

Mr. MATTHEWS: Are they really forced to do that sort of work?

The WITNESS: No, but that seems to be the attitude of some of the people who go around talking about the spirit of culture and so on. I think if the Indians wanted to keep that art alive they would do so.

Mr. MATTHEWS: All those designs have been urged upon the Indians.

The WITNESS: Yes, and they have been subjected to a certain amount of criticism if they attempted to diverge from them.

Mrs. NIELSEN: There would always be some Indians who had an artistic lead and wanted to perpetuate those arts of the past.

The WITNESS: Yes, for instance, in British Columbia we might help them by providing steam baths to soften materials for weaving, instead of the workers having to work the roots under water. In the work that I have been doing, I have tried to help them with different things, but they do require supervision. For instance, this is just one example: I have here a sample of a wastebasket which a woman, in western Ontario, made under my own eyes; as soon as I turned my back she sent me this (witness exhibits poorly made basket). That is why I say we need supervision.

The members of the second school of thought take the position that Indians should be trained to produce on their reserves, craft products which will enter into the ordinary channels of trade, and for which there is a constant demand. In this connection, I wish to emphasize the fact that I have never found that Indians require training in the actual making of their craft goods. They know more about that than we do—but they do need direction as to the type of articles for which there is sale in various parts of the country at various times; they need supervision to keep their work up to standard; they need assistance in procuring necessary materials; and above all they need to learn by actual experience that it is better to co-operate with each other and bring their goods to one central spot on their reserve, for central purchasing, rather than to take time off from production in order to wander through the country, sometimes selling for cash and sometimes trading for old clothing.

Experience has taught us that Indians producing hand-made goods have to compete with the machine-made goods produced by white men, and the competition is usually very keen. We therefore feel that if these industries are to secure a permanent place on our reserves, consideration will have to be given to the production of articles made in part by machine and in part by hand. For instance, from the standpoint of the main body of Canadian purchasers, it would seem that Indian mocassins and slippers are just as attractive and acceptable when made in part by hand, and in part by machine. Another example, in connection with basketry, is that for generations, as at the present time, Indians in this part of the country produce baskets made from strips of black ash, pounded by hand from the logs. If these same logs could be processed by machines somewhat similar to the ordinary veneering machines, much time would be saved. Wooden basket bottoms might well be made by machine, while the sides could be handwoven from willow or other materials.

My personal opinion is that there should be two distinct and separate organizations for craft work: one, industrial and the other cultural. The industrial set-up should be to assist Indian workers—the ordinary every-day Indians—to be self-supporting through the commercial production in quantity

of useful articles such as workbaskets, wastebaskets, and shopping baskets, for which there is a tremendous and ever-increasing demand.

The other, or more cultural set-up, would definitely have to be endowed or subsidized and should have as consultants and advisors such experts as Dr. Marius Barbeau and Dr. Diamond Jenness in order to have some accepted standard as to what is actually traditional Indian design, regarding which there is considerable controversy. Such a set-up should be in a position to select Indians showing definite artistic talent in various lines, and to foster these talents by providing necessary training and equipment, and later a specialized market to absorb the high quality goods produced by this much smaller group of outstanding workers. My belief is that the personnel of two such set-ups would be temperamentally unfitted to work together.

To deal effectively with what we might refer to as "The Industrial set-up", there should be:—

1. A "directing head" or manager, with adequate office and warehouse staff in Ottawa.
2. A field staff of ten or twelve young women, hand-picked and trained to deal with Indians; to guide, direct and co-ordinate production on reserves; and in their turn, to train Indian men and women to handle their own reserve projects and act as assistants.
3. A young man (now in the R.C.A.F.) whose duty it would be to keep all projects supplied with necessary materials, such as ash logs, sweet grass, birch bark, willow, dyes, yarns, etc., etc., with seasonal assistance by Indians.
4. A young man or woman to have charge of "exhibits and publicity."

Existing arrangements for selling are satisfactory at present, but other arrangements could be made as occasion arises. Revolving fund loans should be arranged for new groups as organized, on the usual repayment basis, but the costs involved in providing a reasonably adequate staff for any nation-wide promotion of reserve industries should be:—

Directing Head.....	\$ 3,600 00	plus \$ 1,000 travel
Assistant.....	2,400 00	
2 Grade II stenographers, at approx. \$1,200.....	2,400 00	
2 shippers, say \$960 and \$1,200.....	2,060 00	
10 Field Staff at \$12,800.....	19,000 00	plus \$10,000 travel plus \$10,000 initial purchase of cars
Buyer of Materials.....	1,800 00	plus travel \$ 1,000
Exhibits and publicity person..	2,400 00	plus travel \$ 1,000
\$ 32,660 00 plus \$23,000 00		

I would make it an even \$60,000 the first year, and if during the following year, standing exhibits could be prepared for Great Britain, United States, Mexico, South America, etc., such as have frequently been requested—during the second year the appropriation should be raised to \$75,000. This is apart from buildings which should form part of the post-war program and in which material from discarded barracks could be used. It is also apart from simple machinery which it should also be possible to have transferred from military training centres.

Funds can be spread over an extensive service if arrangements can be made for what might be termed "flexibility in spending." For instance, there are seasons of the year when many Indians need employment in craft work. At such seasons, considerable supervisory assistance is required. Then, when certain groups of Indians abandon this work temporarily in order to go guiding, fishing, trapping, fruit picking, and so on, the supervisory staff should be

partially disbanded. A warehouse for western goods may be required in some central location, and to start with at least, only part-time help should be required. This is the sort of thing which it is very difficult to handle under the regulations which govern employment in departments of the government, but I have no doubt that some satisfactory procedure could be worked out.

By Mr. MacNicol:

Q. They make very lovely baskets out of willow. This appears to be a three-cornered one, apparently?—A. Yes, it was her own model.

Q. But, if they had the right kind of models, they would then make the right kind of baskets?—A. Yes, this woman had the right models, all right, but she said those are just samples, and these are for sale! Some workers seem unable to keep to a standard of goods, to keep their work up to the level of the samples.

Q. Have you been at the reservations on Lake Nipigon?—A. Yes.

Q. At White Sand and Gull Bay?—A. Yes.

Q. For how long were you there?—A. Only about ten days altogether. I was with the medical service at that time and I went in there and saw some of the Indians who had to be brought out to go to hospital.

Q. How long did you stay at Gull Bay?—A. Two nights.

Q. Did you sleep on the boat?—A. No, I used the school teacher's little house there, and the men slept on the boat. Those people do very good skin work.

Q. I am very much interested in helping the Indians. We have spent many millions each year and I thought we had always got very little for our money—I mean the Indians. Gull Bay has a nice little school where they have, perhaps, an average of say 30 pupils.—A. Yes.

Q. When I was there I asked the teacher how she thought the pupils in the school could be improved, and she said, "Well, they love music, but we have not got the instruments for them."

"They need a certain amount of medical attention, but I am not a nurse," and I said, "Do you think that every teacher in charge of a school like this at Gull Bay, and at White Sand and at a score of other places, should be sent, in the summer time, to another government institution at the country's expense where those Indian teachers could be taught or could be given some knowledge of nursing and of ordinary medical first aid?" Because when the doctor does come he is there only for one day, or a part of a day, and it is utterly useless for a doctor to go to a reservation and try to look after 150 people in a day. That sort of work is not worth 50 cents a year.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that we will have an opportunity of speaking about that to Dr. Moore this afternoon. I believe he has some ideas about providing services in there. Could we just go on with this other work in order to deal with the people as they come up? I think we should keep our questioning confined to the brief before us, otherwise we will not make very much progress because certain questions have already been sent in to the department.

Mr. MACNICOL: I have four or five questions to ask that could be answered right away.

The CHAIRMAN: Very well, then.

By Mr. MacNicol:

Q. You first spoke about handcraft work on the reservation, and you stated that at Muncey, where they were trained to make copper metal work, they cannot do it now on account of the war. Now, does that also apply to textile work?—A. Yes. We had a young Indian girl who had received training in weaving, and she was taken on the staff of the supervisor and remained over two years, I believe; and we had eight or ten looms up there.

Q. At Muncey?—A. Yes, at Muncey.

Q. In the girls' school?—A. In the Mount Elgin Residential School, where Mr. Strapp is one of the people whom I found to be very co-operative. He is the principal there and is very much interested in all craft work.

Q. Another observation you made was with respect to certain reservations which were carrying on craft work. Can you name a number of such reservations?—A. Yes, we have quite an industry down near Pierreville, in the province of Quebec, below Sorel. We also had a large industry at St. Regis, which we organized and rather steered towards ordinary dealers in order to drop supervision; but those Indians to-day are earning from \$100 to \$200 a week, working in a United States plant nearby. So the work there has dropped quite a bit.

By Mr. Castleden:

Q. Where are these Indians working?—A. In the aluminum plant at Massena, New York State.

By Mr. MacNicol:

Q. And reservations in the west?—A. I am getting goods from Spanish River and from Christian Island, and from the Soo.

Q. Any from Garden River?—A. Garden River, that is right at Sault Ste Marie.

Q. What is the name of the school at Sault Ste Marie?—A. You mean the residential school? Shingwauk.

Q. Do you assist them too?—A. I do not deal with the school pupils ordinarily. These two projects at Caughnawaga and Muncey were a try-out, but we found it to be better to take them for commercial work after the pupils had left school.

Q. Coming back to Muncey, again, the main trouble there is that when a boy or girl arrives at the age of sixteen years or so, at these schools, he or she is then sent home, with the result that in a large number of cases the ex-pupils revert to the Indian standards. Could the boys do metal work at home?—A. The reason I suggested this metal work was that the Six Nations Indians have always been metal workers. At Muncey we taught the boys with very primitive tools; to begin with, to make a log-mould on which to work. In the manual training classes, Mr. Strapp showed them how to make metal-working tools out of files or things like that. Those boys, if interested, would go on with that type of work and would send their goods in to ordinary markets and they would receive substantial returns.

Q. Could not some of them be used in war work?—A. Many of them have gone into the Army and are in mechanical work. I have a list of their names, and I have ascertained that five out of seven who enlisted are now getting trades pay as mechanics in the services.

Q. Have you a list of their names?—A. I can get them for you.

Q. Does the department keep a record?—A. I doubt it.

Q. I think that they should!—A. It was all a personal matter with me, because I was interested in those boys. Now, as far as our weaving girls are concerned, some have gone into mechanical weaving when there was a call for them. One girl, in particular, became quite expert, and she is reading parachute-cloth in order to find faults. It was because she was expert that they chose her for that work.

Q. One further question I would ask you is: Would you not think it would only be fair for the country to bonus such work to a certain extent—not to a great extent, but to a certain extent so that when their goods are placed on the market they could sell them at competitive prices? We bonus wheat and iron; why should we not give these natives a bonus?

The CHAIRMAN: I think we should let your statement go, and that we should not ask Miss Moodie to answer it. We will leave your statement as it is.

Mr. MACNICOL: I think that Miss Moodie's opinion would be only her own personal opinion. You are not speaking for the department or the government, Miss Moodie?

The WITNESS: There is one thing I would like to say, and it is that Indians can compete with anybody at that sort of thing. (Indicating woven scarfs and ties).

Mrs. NIELSEN: I hope very much that the present witness will not take exception to what I am going to say, because I have the feeling that her ideas are very much in line with my own. To-day I had the idea that we were coming here to discuss problems of the Indian people and their relation with the rest of Canadians. Now, in dealing with handicraft first I think we are putting the cart before the horse. We should have a discussion first on the whole fundamental question as to whether or not our whole policy with regard to Indians is a correct one, or not. It is a policy which was started many years ago. Should it not be completely revised?

The CHAIRMAN: Miss Moodie is not responsible for that. After last week's meeting, the officials of the department and I discussed this, and we thought we should have Miss Moodie come here because of the very good interest shown in the art work and handicraft generally. I was hoping that Miss Moodie might finish her part of the discussion by 12 o'clock noon so that we could then proceed to the other matters; so, I will now ask if there are any further questions. Bear in mind that I would like to finish this part by 12 o'clock if we could.

By Mr. Castleden:

Q. Do you find that the group, like these six young Indians you have mentioned, are good metal workers?—A. There is a traditional "something". When their ancestors have done a certain type of work there seems to be an aptitude for that work.

Q. You said that there are Indians there who are earning \$200 a week in the aluminum plant. I found an Indian last year in Quebec who was recommended to me as being the best steel worker, the best structural steel riveter in the city.—A. Was he from Caughnawaga?

Mr. RICKARD: Was his name Joe Berry?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Oh, you have got me all mixed up now. We have Indians who are good doctors and good nurses and who excel themselves and who show that they can compete in modern fields of endeavour everywhere, almost in spite of the opportunities or conditions under which they have been living. Do you not think that it is time that the educational side of our Indian Affairs Department should take up this matter and discover for those Indians what their capacities are and give them opportunities to train along these lines so that they may go out into the world and make their contribution in that way, and also make their own means of livelihood?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoey should be able to answer that.

The WITNESS: I think it is important to get these people at the age of sixteen and to have some provision made for them, either to place them in employment or to apprentice them, or to find out what they are best fitted to do, because the time from sixteen to eighteen years of age is a bad one. We were doing that sort of work at Caughnawaga before the war, and then following the outbreak of war our plans were upset.

By Mr. Castleden:

Q. You say that the economic problems should first be solved and then you may come along with your hobbies?—A. I feel that this ordinary craft-work is not a hobby. I feel that ordinary merchantable goods, such as the trade is simply crying for—they want ties, scarves and hand-made gloves,

and all sorts of things like that—I feel that those are things which the Indians should be asked to produce until they have earned a living. There is a living to be earned in craftwork for men and women. I would say, roughly, 10 per cent of the Indian population; of course that is not a large percentage, but it helps out a lot.

By the Chairman:

Q. Ten per cent of the Indian population could thrive on practical craft-work?—A. Yes, the men are very good at willow-work, and all sorts of things.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mr. TUSTIN: Miss Moodie held up this basket and said there was a tremendous amount of work in it. I think she said she did not think the Indian Affairs Department should promote this sort of work. Then Mr. Matthews said they were not forced to do this work and Miss Moodie followed by saying that they were urged to do it and if not they would be criticized. Now, who does this criticizing?

The WITNESS: I think the criticism comes from women who have had little experience in such matters.

Mr. MACNICOL: Can't you keep them off the reservations altogether?

The WITNESS: I wish we could, but they form themselves into associations and they succeed in getting publicity.

By the Chairman:

Q. You do not mean, Miss Moodie, that the Indians are criticized by departmental officials?—A. Oh no, not at all, no.

The CHAIRMAN: That has been made quite clear, Mr. Tustin.

The WITNESS: The Indians do a good job just as long as they are supervised, but just as soon as they are not supervised they go back to their old ways. For example, take children going to school. These children are educated up to the age of fifteen or sixteen, but when they are allowed to go back to their own homes, they tend to fall back into the same old lines.

Q. I have heard it said that it takes three generations of schooling, say, in a good residential school, to get Indians to the point where they can hold their own ground.—A. I do not think it should be expected that they change too rapidly. There are a great many things that these Indians make, such as apple baskets, for which there is a great demand. I think that there should be some supervision to keep these people on that job. I have a letter here in connection with picking baskets. I received a request from a large basket company asking about baskets made about this long (indicating), having a heavy hoop for a handle, and another heavy hoop for a circle. Now, these baskets contain at least 30 cents worth of ash splint. Consider the cost of materials plus the time spent in making them and the fact that the ceiling price for them is \$12 a dozen—

Mr. RICKARD: We pay \$1.20.

The WITNESS: You should pay \$2.

Mr. RICKARD: We cannot afford to do that.

The WITNESS: That basket is going to last for twenty years.

Mr. RICKARD: It won't last more than two years. No basket that any Indian can make will last more than two years.

The WITNESS: I will bet you the ones that I have would last more than two years.

Mr. MACNICOL: Oh, sell him one for \$5 and then give him a discount.

Mr. RICKARD: We found that a basket lasts two years with ordinary wear and tear, and at that we think we are doing very well.

By Mr. Ross (Middlesex):

Q. Where were these baskets made, Miss Moodie?—A. At Spanish River reserve, in Soo agency.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

By Mr. MacNicol:

Q. Do you go to Morley?—A. I have never been west of Winnipeg, although I have had correspondence with Mr. Graham of Morley.

By Mr. Ross (Calgary):

Q. From what you have already said, I think you will agree with me that before the advent of the white men the Indians possessed a talent for arts and crafts?—A. The Indians used such materials as were at hand, and they made useful articles and things that they needed to use.

Q. And a number of them had talent along that line?—A. When a little family competition entered into the matter they began to decorate and ornament them for special occasions. Those articles would be of a better type. Now, when anybody makes something which he wants to be beautiful, and to use for some special occasion, he will try to turn out something better than an article manufactured by the dozen.

Q. And in order to do that sort of thing they actually developed a talent along that line?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, following up what Mr. MacNicol and Mr. Castleden were saying about the department taking steps to search out these talents and try to find their practical application as far as possible—

The CHAIRMAN: Wouldn't that be a question, rather, for Mr. Hoey? My point is that I want to avoid the asking of the same questions over and over again of different witnesses, as they come along. Now, Mr. Hoey is in charge of general education and it might be wise to reserve questions on education for him to answer. On the other hand, if you would be satisfied with what Miss Moodie might answer—

Mr. Ross (Calgary): I do not know. Whoever can give the answer would be satisfactory to me.

The CHAIRMAN: I would suggest Mr. Hoey.

The WITNESS: I can only answer part of the question. Where I found Indian workers who stood out above the general run and make goods of a sort which do not fit into the ordinary lines of our markets, I advised them to go to the handicraft guilds in the different cities because there they would have a better chance to cultivate and market their better class of goods. I think I had better leave the balance of the question for Mr. Hoey.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, by Mr. Hoey.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex): A moment ago Miss Moodie mentioned a communication about which she appeared to be a bit wild.

The WITNESS: This communication is from a man whose name I will not mention. He is a prominent basket manufacturer. The letter reads as follows:—

Dear Miss Moodie,—We have yours of May 12, and note your various remarks. We haven't any argument about these costs that you mention, nevertheless the ceiling is on our prices, and we have argued and argued with the government about that, but they won't grant us any release, and that is the reason these picking baskets are very scarce, and will be more scarce. It seems too bad that some of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board didn't have a little experience in the practical working out of some of these matters, it seems to be their one and only idea that prices cannot go up. We wonder if any of them really believe in practical experience

that prices haven't gone up. Certainly wages have gone up and men working for factories get an 18 per cent cost of living bonus, nevertheless an Indian making baskets is not supposed to have a cost of living bonus, or any increase at all. How ridiculous.

We quite realize that you cannot do business with us, and we hope you quite realize that we cannot do business with you under those prices. At some future date when this war is over and we get back to normal, we will be glad to hear from you again.

Mr. RICKARD: Why is it we used to get these baskets for 75 cents?—A. The cost were lower and the material was more plentiful. Transportation costs were more easily handled.

Mr. RICKARD: Only a few years ago it was 75 cents and I think that with the difference in price as between what they were then and what they are now that if they could make them then for 75 cents they could make them now for \$1.25.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): I think there will be a good market if tourists and the like could get something right on the spot—something like that made by the natives. I think there will be a market there. Do you try to make them a market on reserves, or take the stuff right into Toronto.

The WITNESS: We have tried outside of the Shawanoga reserve near Parry Sound; and there is a log house built on the highway leading to the Prince Albert national park, between it and Montreal lake, I believe. I am speaking from reports. We have tried that in many places but many of the Indians are not good merchants and they gyp each other. You cannot hold the prices.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): There have been very few American tourists come in since the war.

The WITNESS: Not only that, but this would apply to remote reserves where these things are made and where people do not buy them. I have stayed on a number of reserves where these things are made, and I do not think tourists would be interested.

Mr. MacNICOL: Is this material on those tables the same as the material down at the end of the room?

The WITNESS: No, that deals with another branch.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, I am going to ask Mr. Allan to return, and I think it would be well if, first of all, Mr. Allan answered some of the questions which were asked by some of the members, and then we can go into a general discussion.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I think the committee should thank Miss Moodie for her fine presentation here.

The CHAIRMAN: I thought we would do that later on, because we may recall her.

Mr. D. J. ALLAN, recalled.

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the chairman mentioned certain questions which were asked which would probably fall within the class of work I am doing, and I think the answers will come out of the discussion. There is very little in the questionnaire which affects me. The principal question was with regard to the classification of Indian effort into the various basic industries in Canada. Now, I find that between Mr. Hoey and myself—and I will ask you to believe that we are both seriously interested in the welfare of the Indians—there is some disagreement. I think Mr. Hoey would tell you that among the basic industries, fur, agriculture and such things as fisheries and forestry and so on, he would devote about one-third to each. My studies of the

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matter have led me to a slightly different conclusion, but my judgment may be slightly coloured by my interest in fur. I would say that 50 per cent of all the Indians in Canada are more or less engaged in the fur industry. I would say that possibly 25 per cent or a little more are interested in agriculture and ranching and such pursuits.

Mr. MacNICOL: How much in fishing?

The WITNESS: I would say about 15 per cent of the Indian population in Canada is interested in fishing, 7 per cent are interested in forestry and lumbering, and I have left 3 per cent in the question as it was asked in light and heavy industries. Now, I think it should be understood that you cannot have any of these activities put in one pigeonhole because the Indian who is basically engaged or primarily engaged on the trap lines is also a fisherman. He has to be. Similarly, a man who in the summertime engages in one or other of the forms of agriculture in the wintertime goes out on a trap line. He may even go on to the lakes, and they interlock and overlap, and it is very difficult for that reason to say that a certain percentage are in fur and a certain percentage are in fish or forestry or agriculture.

I think we have to put first things first. After all, what we are interested in and what we are paid to do, shall I say, is to administer the resources as we have them on Indian reserves and as we can acquire them outside of Indian reserves so that we can put food in the mouths of the Indians and shelters over their heads and clothing on their backs. Those are the first things and they must be put first. There is not very much room for art and the finer phases of life in the life of a man who has not enough to eat. The first duty of our department is to see that the 118,000 Indians in Canada have enough to eat and enough to wear and have a happy future under greatly improved conditions from the resources of Canada placed at our disposal on their behalf. We have for the Indians 5,500,000 acres of land in Canada. Some of it is the best land in Canada, most of it is inferior land; much of it is in the wilds. It is a place to live, and that is about all you can say as far as the reserve is concerned. The Indian reserves was not designed to support the Indian community; it was designed as a place for the Indian to live, and we find that they have to go far beyond the confines of their reserves to make a living. There are important natural resources in the five basic types mentioned. I say with regard to mining that very few Indians are suited for mining work, or engaged in it.

Mr. MacNICOL: Have they anything to do with mining on the reserves? Are the minerals on the reserves the property of the government?

The WITNESS: Only the precious metals; all other minerals belong to the Indians who own the land, or they belong to Canada in trust for the Indians. We have looked for oil on the Sarcee and Blood Indian reserves, and I hope we find oil on the Stony reserve which is of little value for any other purpose. The royalties from oil would accrue to the benefit of the Indian band, and that is one hope that they some day hope to realize.

The CHAIRMAN: Would those royalties accrue to the benefit of the Indian band of that particular reserve or for Indians generally?

The WITNESS: For the benefit of that particular reserve. Incidentally, I had the satisfaction of signing up an oil lease on the Stony reserve where the promoter advised me he was never as certain of anything in his experience as he was that he had oil, and he was going to send me a ticket for the blow-in. I am looking forward to that.

Yesterday we had an application from a large oil firm on the Blood Indian reserve. They are only searching for oil there. The point I want to make now is that on 5,500,000 acres of Indian lands in Canada we have never found any mineral, we have not a working mine, and we have not found oil. We believe those things are there and a search is going on and we may eventually find them.

There is one instance of a small coal mine on the Blackfoot Indian reserve in Alberta which is operated by the Indians themselves.

May I return to what I call first things first. What do we do for these people? I spoke to you the other day concerning my fond hopes for the expansion of the fur industry in Canada to the extent where it will much more adequately provide a living for 50 per cent of the total Indian population of Canada as well as for other people who will benefit from the same development. May I elaborate on what I said the other day? How do we propose to do that? I have covered the muskrat program, I think, to the satisfaction of everybody but myself; I am now touching very briefly upon the beaver program. I want to come back to the beaver program, because I feel that I rather left that matter in the air. The plan that I proposed in the mimeographed sheet that I left with you was the establishment, in co-operation with the provinces, of beaver reserves across Canada. You will recall I suggested, and it was only a suggestion, that there might be three in the northwest territories, two in British Columbia, two in each of the prairie provinces, three in the province of Ontario, three in the province of Quebec and possibly three in the maritime provinces. Due to the fact that the ownership of their natural resources is vested in the provinces and that the land over which we will have to operate is in the provinces, this plan can only be accomplished by co-operation with the provinces. I can see no reason why the provinces should not be willing to co-operate in such a plan. These reserves that we would establish would still be open for the trapping of all types of fur, except beaver, in the first instance. Beaver would be rigorously protected for, say, ten years until their stocks reached the point where they would sustain the population without exceeding the annual increase or encroaching on the capital stock. All the Indian would be allowed to take or all the trapper would be allowed to take would be a part of the interest until we get the capital stocks built up again.

Mr. MacNICOL: What is the average life of a beaver?

The WITNESS: I do not know, Mr. MacNICOL, but I am told it is anywhere from thirty to fifty years. They have a long life.

You have touched on a point there that gives me some little concern, and that is that if we preserve beaver on one of those preserves for ten years the ones that we started with are going to be very old. We think we know how to handle that situation for the chaps in northern Ontario and northern Quebec where the trench method is followed and where they actually can select the animals which are taken, by hand, alive. They are not caught in steel traps or fancy traps, they are caught by the tail by hand.

Mr. MacNICOL: Don't they bite?

The WITNESS: No, they are too stiff in the body, they cannot turn around. If they are caught by the tail they cannot bite.

Mr. RICKARD: Can you tell how old they are?

The WITNESS: The experienced trapper knows from his general experience whether a beaver is old or young by the size of it. Beavers will run on the average about 30 pounds a carcass. I have heard of one instance of a beaver that was taken at Rupert House that weighed over 100 pounds; it was old. They do not get their growth for five or ten years, but under this trench method where they take the live animal in their hands they can let it go again if it is a female or if it is young and immature. When the Hudson Bay Company took 1,800 beaver at the Rupert river reserve the fur auction at Montreal said that they were the most marvellous group of beaver that had ever been shown. They were all either blankets or extra large, and the reason for that is that when they take the beaver by the trench method the Indians select them.

Mr. MacNICOL: What do you mean by the trench method?

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The WITNESS: It is difficult for me to explain it to you, but they block the house up and leave only one small exit, and there is a hole in the bank where the beaver goes for refuge, and between the two the trapper cuts a hole in the ice across and they take a rat spear—sometimes they use dogs—and they scare the beaver out and he goes back to the house. They chase him out of the house into the bank, and they put in their trench and they chase him back again with a rat spear. One trapper is on his knees over the trench and as the beaver comes out he grabs him by the tail and pulls him out. A great many of the beaver, as Mr. Macdonald well knows, in northern Quebec, and in some instances in northern Ontario, are taken by that trench method. That gives them an excellent opportunity to discard the immature beavers and the females. It is a tremendously difficult job to tell a female from a male beaver by examination. However, we feel that we can build up beaver stocks to ten times their present numbers in a matter of ten years, and in a shorter time if we adopt the policy of restocking these preserves from places where they are plentiful or places where they are a nuisance. We transplant now sixty beaver a year to the two preserves in Ontario, one at Kasagami and the other on the Albany river, and thirty-eight of those, with the permission of the Ontario government and their co-operation, were taken from Algonquin park. They are plentiful there. There is no trapping allowed there but they allow us to go in and take live beavers and transplant them to other parts of the province. We take sixty a year now but plan to extend the program.

Mr. MacNICOL: From Algonquin park?

The WITNESS: Yes. We should be taking 1,000 a year and we could always find places to put them.

Mr. MacNICOL: If you took those beaver from the Algonquin park, say to northern Manitoba, how would you keep them during the first winter?

The WITNESS: We would not need to do that. As a matter of fact there are lots of places in southern Manitoba where we can get them closer. From the Algonquin park now we are taking them up to the Albany river. We trap them there with live traps. People ask, why don't you trap all beaver by that method? One live-trap would nearly cover this table which answers that question effectively. We live-trap beaver in Algonquin park and take them to a shipping point in canoes, ship them to Moosonee and then take them up to canoes where they are disseminated as widely as possible over the 7,000,000 acres we have there as a beaver preserve. The cost is not heavy. Last year, including the cost of our traps and crates, the cost was only \$38 an animal to put them in.

You may ask how we get them. We trap early in the season. Last year we trapped in June; this year we are diverting it until July, because we found we were taking the mothers from their very small young. In nearly all cases the trapper knows about this and he takes the little ones too. We had eight or ten little ones in the crop but four or five of them died. If they were moved when they were older we would save the young ones too. This year we start in July and the trapping will be spread over the following three weeks and we propose to take thirty or forty of them and put them in the Albany district. The ones we put in Kasagami illustrates the co-operation we get from the provinces, because the province of Quebec permits us to live-trap in the province of Quebec and to take the beaver over to the province of Ontario. That is only one concession, and we are very grateful to the province of Quebec for it. The same thing could be extended indefinitely to the other provinces. In Alberta we are transplanting beaver and placing them on the Indian trap-lines. We would like to do it on Beaver preserves. We have not the degree of control over trap-lines that we should have to accomplish our ends. The trap-line is small. Even though you have a group of them together you have divided control

and ownership, and one poaches against the other. Our theory is that we should have it definitely set aside as a preserve where we would have full and complete control over the animals.

I would like to take this beaver business one step further. When we get to the point where the beaver population alone will maintain the resident population, and it will—it is already doing it at Prince Rupert—then we will close those preserves to the taking of all other types of fur. That is complementary to the scheme. As soon as we get the beaver to a point where the beaver crop will maintain the population that takes the pressure off all other kinds of fur, and we will develop the marten, the fisher, and the lynx, and all the other wild animals that do not respond to the fur farming methods in semi-captivity. We can keep the mink, the fox and the raccoon and several other species in semi-captivity but you cannot put a lynx in semi-captivity. A fisher won't breed in captivity. Marten experiments have been disappointing. Those animals have to be developed in the wilds, and this is all complementary to the beaver development plan. As soon as we take the pressure off the other fur bearers and maintain the population on beaver, those others will benefit.

Mr. MacNICOL: You bar their capture for a while.

The WITNESS: Properly bar the taking of them for a period.

These things serve another purpose. It is not only for what these sanctuary areas will produce themselves but it is a nucleus that will reseed the whole surrounding district. Martin, fisher, lynx and various types of foxes are all more or less migratory. You cannot keep them on a preserve, and if you protect them on a preserve they will spread and re-seed all the other areas around it.

There is another development—and I am going away into the future—as soon as you get a producing area that will maintain the resident population you can immediately set aside as a preserve the country adjoining it; and we are quite convinced that if our ideas are given a fair trial, and if we achieve the success that we hope for, we won't have any difficulty in persuading the governing bodies to set aside further preserves because the idea will sell itself just as the muskrat proposition sold itself. We started up with Thomas Lamb with 54,000 acres and next with Summerberry with 135,000 acres and next with Two Islands with 160,000 acres and then with Connolly lake with 100,000 acres, then we got out of the province altogether and went into Saskatchewan. That is the way the thing grows. Nothing succeeds like success.

Mr. MacNICOL: You mention Thomas Lamb in connection with beaver. Was he the first person to bring beaver into that country?

The WITNESS: No. Actually the history of Thomas Lamb and the beaver is pretty much this—

The CHAIRMAN: Didn't we go into that pretty fully at the last meeting?

Mr. MacNICOL: No, this is important.

The WITNESS: He had three beaver houses on his place when he started—

Mr. MacNICOL: Were they native beaver or New York beaver?

The WITNESS: Native beaver. Then, in his second or third year—Tom is a great little advertiser and he got the people in New York state interested. They gave him three pairs of beaver, shipped them into The Pas and he put them on his ranch. He got them late, so late that they did not have a chance to lay in a supply of food. This is the story that I know. All that winter, Lamb, who is the proud father of nine children—

Mr. MacNICOL: Wonderful children.

The WITNESS:—his children spent almost all winter taking bits of poplar and alder and putting them through the ice and kept those beaver alive. They actually fed them through the ice and he actually brought them through the

winter. I have seen pictures of Tom Lamb's little girls who are maybe fourteen or fifteen years of age with six husky dogs or five husky dogs and a wolf hitched to a sleigh and carting this stuff out to the lake to push it under the ice for the beaver.

Mr. MacNICOL: Otherwise they would have died.

The WITNESS: Yes, they would have died, because he did not get them until the season was over, until the month of October—September or October—when there is no chance of their setting up a food supply. So he had to feed them. He has beaver on his ranch. We have them coming into the marshes that is really not beaver country. There is little alder or poplar in it; it is marsh country. There are a few beaver there.

Mr. MacNICOL: Now, I interrupted you, when you were in Quebec.

The CHAIRMAN: When the witness is taken from one subject it is hard to get back to it again.

Mr. MacNICOL: We learned that that part of the country is not a beaver country. That is important.

The WITNESS: To return to the general program. If we could set up these beaver preserves across Canada we would make a very useful contribution to Indian welfare because so many of them live in pursuit of fur, following the trap-line, and following my purpose of putting first things first I would start with fur.

Mr. MacNICOL: These funds you are asking for have to do with these fur farmers?

The WITNESS: Yes. Spread over a term of years I am asking for one million dollars to establish, manage, and develop twenty beaver preserves across Canada.

Mr. Ross (Calgary): Are you asking for it in the estimates?

The WITNESS: No, I am asking you people to consider it as a post-war program.

The CHAIRMAN: That is what you gave us last time.

Mr. MacNICOL: I think that is important business—calling attention to the twenty beaver preserves. Where would those twenty preserves be? Maybe you do not care to say?

The WITNESS: Yes, I have not any hesitation in saying, but how much do I know about it? Mr. Turgeon knows as much as I know about that huge constituency he represents. I understand they slip into his constituency.

Mr. MacNICOL: He won't object to that.

The CHAIRMAN: You will think that I have been talking.

The WITNESS: The reason is not that I have met Mr. Turgeon in the last few days but it is the fact that territorially he represents the most of British Columbia.

By Mr. MacNICOL:

Q. He represents a lot of it—if you count the water and the mountains. Well, go on?—A. That is where the beaver thrives. Mr. Turgeon and the beaver are alike in that respect.

Q. Would there be any in the maritime provinces?—A. I do not know enough about the maritime provinces to say. I understand there is quite a well developed beaver conservation program on in Nova Scotia right now, but I have not got the particulars of it. From what I know of the interior of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia—and I have been through parts of both provinces—I can see no reason why beaver should not be there. However, I would want some advice on that from the fur and game people in those provinces.

Q. There are some in Quebec and some in Ontario?—A. In Ontario we definitely have three and we should have four or five. As regards Quebec, in addition to the ones they have they should have a couple more. Take the north shore. They have the Indian settlement at St. Augustin, at Mingan, at Seven Islands and at Bersimis. From Bersimis to the sea right on up to Augustin that is the country. The people who live in there trade a good many hundreds of beaver. There are possibly 2,000 Indians there.

Mr. HOBY: There are 698 at Bersimis, 625 at Seven Islands, 115 at Mingan and 359 at St. Augustin.

The WITNESS: Those people maintain themselves almost entirely from the pursuit of the trap-line. They have to make a living for themselves and they have practically decimated the fur bearers in those areas and they are now trapping in Labrador. Labrador and Newfoundland are going to tire of that and say, "Keep your own Indians at home; we need that country for our own people." The obvious thing from our point of view is to develop beaver preserves in there and re-stock that country. Somewhere between Seven Islands and Mingan there are streams in that country that are admirably suited to the development of beaver sanctuaries, and we would like to establish seven or eight million acres of preserve there and take the beaver, if we have to take them, from James bay and transport them in there to restock that country in order to speed up the benefits that could be obtained. The cost is not prohibitive. After the war we will have expert airmen and we will have lots of aircraft and the beaver could be flown from James bay to Mingan in twenty-four hours and would be in a new environment within a week of their capture. They transport well.

Q. Are climatic conditions about the same?—A. More or less the same, but it would not matter much because the beaver line goes as far north as the Great Whale river, and this area is much south of that. And they are there now, because the people have lived on them for centuries. It is beaver country. Then there is the area around Grand lake Victoria, and at the headwaters of the Cologne and the Black rivers. There is that area in Mr. McDonald's constituency of Pontiac which has been lumbered over, and it is ideal. They took out the pine and the spruce and the conifers and what you get in the next fifty years is a huge crop of alder, poplar and white birch, and those are the beaver foods. They naturally live in those particular areas, but as Mr. McDonald knows and will say, the area is practically depleted.

Q. Mr. McDonald will not object either.—A. The district is practically depleted. It is one of the best fur countries that has come within our studies. We know that it was once excellent beaver country and we know that it will be so again, but there are no beaver there now. We know the Grand Lake Victoria area immediately north of it as the best beaver country in the province at the present time, and that could be extended over six or seven million acres with a minimum of expense. All you would need would be a closed season on beaver for ten years and you will bring them back to a point where that country would be as good as Grand Lake Victoria is to-day, and the Grand Lake Victoria area is capable of giving not less than ten beaver to every trapper in the country now. They can stand a heavier crop than that, but we do not need to do that now, because beaver are worth some \$40 to \$60 apiece and when you give one of those trappers \$400 or \$600 a year from every beaver line in the country and they are able to implement that by a diversity of other fur, you have done enough, so you do not need to take more than ten. We would sooner have the beaver migrate into the adjoining territories to the east and build up that whole section of the province.

Mr. MacNICOL: Is the beaver good to eat?—A. Excellent. In the winter-time it is very fat and is preferred by those northern Indians to any other meat. I think I told you the story that the Hudson's Bay Company asked the Indians to take 1,800 beaver and the Indians said, "No, we will not take over 800

because that is all we can eat." They do not take more beaver than they can eat. They believe that the slaughter of beaver for the pelt alone is a waste and we try to encourage that idea.

Q. Now, there is the first item, ten projects at \$50,000 each. Could you explain how much of that \$50,000 would be spent?—A. That \$500,000 is a five-year program. Our experience with the preserves we already have is that we can operate them at a cost of from \$3,000 to \$3,500 a year. These projects I suggest would be more expensive because we run these now with one supervisor and my own part-time, whereas if you set up three projects in Ontario it would mean you would have to have three field superintendents. We should not expect to find a competent man to operate, manage and control that area unless we are prepared to pay him an annual salary of, say \$3,600 a year.

Q. Would he be an Indian or a white man?—A. A white man.

Q. Would the Indians possibly develop to be able to supervise themselves?—A. Yes, but even with a white man it is a question of education, and we can educate a white man for that job more quickly than we can an Indian. The Indians do a tremendous amount of the field work, the actual intimate work on the ground, but the direction would have to be in the charge of a white man and a good white man, a man with a high order of administrative ability, and they are hard to get. Those men would have to be trained to some extent in the work. But to come back to cost, I would say roughly \$50,000 to each preserve which would provide the salary for a competent supervisor, his necessary travelling expenses, and the small costs of taking the annual census and keeping records as to the progress of his department.

Q. What would the headquarters technical staff be?—A. In connection with the beaver preserve we would have to have an organization to correlate the work done in the various provinces. You would probably need one chief supervisor in charge of the whole scheme and a minimum of clerical and stenographic staff.

Q. This \$50,000 would be spent over a period of ten years, or five years?—A. Five years.

Q. \$10,000 a year. This is one of the most interesting parts of our whole meeting—the extension of fur production, and I agree with Mr. Allan that the Indian is naturally a fur man. We would be able to give a lot of Indians work if this work were carried out.—A. The other item of \$400,000—the last item on the page—re-stocking with beaver, that is \$80,000 a year—that is also an arbitrary figure, and if I had the last word as to what would be done I would re-stock every preserve.

Q. Where do you get the beaver?—A. I would live trap beaver and put them on the preserve.

Q. Would you have to pay the provincial government from the province in which you get the beaver?—A. No, I do not think so, but you would have to pay for the actual trapping operations. We might have to pay in some instances where the farmers, perhaps on the prairies, complain that there is a beaver colony which is flooding their hay meadow. You send someone in to trap the beaver and they will say that every one of those beaver was on their property and that they are worth something, and you would probably have to pay \$10 or \$15 each to take them off. The costs to live trap a beaver and transport him is estimated at about \$50. If you have twenty preserves and you are going to put fifty a year in each preserve this is going to make 1,000 beaver a year at \$50, or \$50,000, that you are going to have to spend in re-stocking.

Q. This whole vote is \$1,800,000?—A. You are on the wrong program; the beaver program is the last one.

Q. What are the projects before this?—A. That is the muskrat. This \$1,800,000 is the extension of the muskrat program.

Q. As far as I am concerned we are through with the beaver program.—A. I think you understand what I have in mind.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the committee understands what you are suggesting, but you may speak of the beaver if you wish.

Mr. MacNICOL: When the vote comes up in the House of Commons everyone in this committee will support the beaver program.

The WITNESS: I think I can say that the beaver program is finished. You understand what I have in mind.

Mr. MacNICOL: As the fur program was brought up by Mr. Ross, would there be any program out near Morley?

The WITNESS: No, you have to go deeper. The Stony reserve lies on the edge of the foot hills. The Stony Indians take a lot of beaver. We should create a preserve in their territory. That is another case where beaver would be of inestimable value; the Bloods, the Peigan, Sarcees and Stonies all would benefit from a beaver preserve in there if it happened to be suitable beaver country. There are beaver there; I do not know how extensive they are.

Mr. MacNICOL: You envisage looking after something out there?

The WITNESS: Yes. I would like to return a moment to the muskrat business.

By Mr. Matthews:

Q. What essentials do you look for in the selecting of a preserve?—A. The first essentials, of course, are running water and deciduous trees—alder and poplar and white birch. You find those almost anywhere across northern Canada, but the nature of the terrain has a lot to do with it too. For instance, you can go into an area such as there is around Flin Flon where there is precambrian formation and you will find there hills with nothing but exposed rock. There is water with no beach around it, as you gentlemen have seen many times, where there is a drop from a sheer rock to crystal clear water with not a particle of animal food around the place. There is water but that is all. Those areas would not be suitable for beaver; but what we are trying to get is an area not too rough with plenty of small tributary streams running through alder poplar.

Mr. ALLAN: Many small streams run through there and we do not try to mark them out according to survey lines, but we rather follow the watersheds between streams. You will notice the shape of our areas there. There are none of them regular. An Indian does not, or a trapper does not trap on one side of the stream, he traps as far back as he can travel. He will go back to the headwaters of the streams running into his artery of travel, the main stream, so you make your division at the headwaters. A beaver cannot dam the Assiniboine river or the Red river, but he can dam a little creek. So you go up to the headwaters, and the farther up you go the better the possibilities, because you do not have to put in such a big dam. They usually move up-stream and very rarely downstream. They keep moving up and up and up until they get into the headwaters of these various waterways.

Mr. MATTHEWS: In respect to the Assiniboine river you said there would be some objection, I presume on the part of the farmers?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, on account of the flooding of lands. The most notorious place in Manitoba where that administration had trouble on account of beaver was at the South end of Pelican Lake, where the beaver dam flooded out the meadows of the farmers who complained and said, "Take them out of here." I remember one time in the Manitoba department we endeavoured to eliminate a colony of beavers. We tried at first to destroy their dam and thereby make them move away, and every night for a week we broke down their dam but in

the morning we would find it built up again. So, one of the boys got the idea of putting a lighted lantern at each end of the dam. This worked fine for the first night, but on the second night the beavers said that lantern didn't do us any harm last night, so they went out and built the dam up, in spite of the lighted lantern on each side.

The CHAIRMAN: If men could only learn in one day or even in one night how to do things; with one day's experience!

Mr. MATTHEWS: Are there many beavers in those waters?

Mr. ALLAN: They are becoming more plentiful in the southern parts of Manitoba and Saskatchewan every year, for some reason or other, I do not know why. Mr. Forsythe, the fur commissioner for Saskatchewan, says they are becoming a great nuisance in places.

Mr. RICKARD: Suppose a man sat there all night with a lantern?

Mr. ALLAN: A man did stay there with the lanterns, but they paid no attention to him, even though he might have killed them easily. They took that risk.

Mr. MacNICOL: We can pass by beaver now.

The CHAIRMAN: All right. It is ten minutes to one and I thought we had better adjourn before we take up the subject of muskrats, so that we may get the whole muskrat picture in front of us.

Mr. McIVOR: I am not a member of the committee, Mr. Chairman, but may I say a word?

The CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to permit Mr. McIvor to ask a question?

A MEMBER: No.

Mr. McIVOR: The socialization of muskrats started in the depression times and I have just one idea in my mind and that is that there should be one man to look after the socialization of the muskrats and give his whole time to it. No better man than D. J. Allan could be found to do this work. That is one thing that we should keep in mind.—(Discussion off the record.)

The CHAIRMAN: Well, 3 o'clock—will that be a convenient hour for us to reassemble? We will adjourn until 3 o'clock in this same room.

The Committee adjourned at 12.50 p.m. to meet again this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Committee resumed at 3 o'clock p.m.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, we will come to order and I shall ask Mr. Allan if he will return—I almost said to the box.

Mr. ALLAN: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I was under the impression that I had pretty well finished and that there was only one question to which I might add a further word of explanation. That question is in connection with the proposed muskrat development project.

I shall place on the record a memorandum:—

PROPOSED FUR REHABILITATION PROGRAM

A. Immediate construction program to be completed in three years—

1. Extension and completion of Sipanok Rat Development Project, Province of Saskatchewan, 250,000 acres.....	\$ 100,000 00
2. Development of 200,000 acres Indian lands and Alberta lands in the Athabasca Delta, Alberta	150,000 00
3. Maintenance and protection of above projects to production..	50,000 00
	<u>\$ 300,000 00</u>

PROPOSED FUR REHABILITATION PROGRAM—Concluded

B. Post-war muskrat rehabilitation program—Five years—

1. Clerical assistance and expenses of Steering Committee of permanent Civil Servants for two years at \$3,000.00.....	6,000 00
2. Ten exploration parties, six to nine months each year to search out projects for two years at \$75,000.00.....	150,000 00
3. Ten engineering parties six months each year for two years at \$50,000.00	100,000 00
4. Technical staff on preparation of construction plans, draftsmen, etc., with supplies and materials, for two years at \$22,000.00	44,000 00
	<u>300,000 00</u>

Construction Program—Five Years

1st year—Ten projects at \$50,000.00 each	500,000 00
H.Q.'s and technical staff and expenses.....	50,000 00
2nd year—Same ten projects at \$50,000 each.....	500,000 00
H.Q.'s and technical staff and expenses.....	50,000 00
3rd year—Maintenance of structures and protection.....	75,000 00
H.Q.'s and field management.....	25,000 00
4th year—Maintenance of structures and protection.....	100,000 00
H.Q.'s and field management.....	25,000 00
5th year—Maintenance of structures and protection.....	125,000 00
H.Q.'s and field management.....	50,000 00
	<u>\$1,800,000 00</u>

C. Post-war beaver preserves and sanctuaries program—Five years—

Establishment and organization of Twenty Beaver Preserves across Canada in co-operation with the Provinces.....	\$ 100,000 00
Expense of exploration and selection.....	500,000 00
Management of Twenty Preserves for five years, one supervisor to each preserve	400,000 00
Re-stocking program, 50 live Beaver to each Preserve for five years.....	<u>\$1,000,000 00</u>

You will notice that it is laid out in a five-year program. That is, five years dating from the beginning of the program, whenever that may be.

Mr. MacNICOL: And what would the total cost be?

Mr. ALLAN: The total cost, the whole thing, I have put in at \$1,800,000. Now, you cannot start these construction programs until you have found out where you are going to do it. On the last day I mentioned that we were developing areas with which we were thoroughly familiar. Presumably, scores and scores of places must exist in the domain where similar work could be done. Now, to ascertain just where those places are is the first step that we would have to take. We would have to send out exploration parties, headed by someone who recognized the muskrat habitat, when he saw it, searching these out. It would not be difficult, because the guide would be where are the muskrats produced in a state of nature coming from. If you see an area where there are 10,000 rats a year coming from it, year after year, you know that you have a natural habitat which, according to our theory, is capable of being developed. We are convinced that if you could find those places, then, by giving nature a little assistance in the form of controlled water levels and adequate protection, we could make those areas produce ten times what they are producing at the present time, and I am very modest, at that, because our experience has been that we have produced one hundred times with what nature has given to us.

Mr. MacNICOL: We could almost pay the national debt on returns.

Mr. ALLAN: I would send out an exploration or prospecting party, one to each province, to search these places out and tell us where they are, and I would follow up those prospectors with an engineering staff who would check the levels and tell us exactly what the nature of the development would be, and find the suitable formations with which we are familiar. Actually, all I know about development of muskrat areas is that you need to find an area

where you have a saucer-like formation to retain the water on the inside without having to build expensive dykes. You have that sort of condition all through the north country, and those areas exist all over the country, but we do not know where they are. We hear rumours that suitable country is here and there and every other place, but we have not examined them. Such examination has to be done by trained men, with knowledge of that particular line. Before we started the first development, we spent \$3,500 in engineering data, that had to be accumulated and compiled on maps. You have to know where to put in your structures, and so on. After you have found these places actual construction is, in our experience, spread over the first two years, until you get the water evenly distributed over the development. Then you have a waiting period for two or three years until both the rat population and the food develop to a point where it will carry the productive capacity of the area under development. Searches of that kind, spread over five years, would only provide ten projects in Canada. That is, about one in each province, or two in four or five of the chosen provinces where we happen to find a proper terrain on which to work. The details of this plan have been worked out in the past and they will work out in the future. I remember the deputy minister in Manitoba saying to an audience one time, "If you want to know anything about developing of rat projects, come and ask us, because we have made all the mistakes there are to make and we know all the answers." Now, that is just what you do, it is purely trial and error. Now we think we have got to the point where our errors will be few, and that these things will develop pretty much according to pattern.

Mr. MACNICOL: Every province, I presume, has a branch of its government or some department doing exactly the same work?

Mr. ALLAN: Manitoba is, others have the same opportunity of doing this work, but I do not know of any other province in which they are actually doing it.

Mr. MACNICOL: Well, they are getting some assistance in Manitoba.

Mr. ALLAN: Manitoba is very much in the field; they are running their own show entirely.

Mr. MACNICOL: I am going to check each item, myself. The first is the Sipanok Rat Development—

Mr. ROSS (*Calgary East*): What is the witness's experience in connection with the place where the rat population has been greatly increased? What about disease and infections?

Mr. ALLAN: We know that there is a danger of an epidemic disease, when they become too crowded, but we have not had any experience of it that we know of. We have suspected it, but examinations failed to find any trace of an epidemic disease.

Mr. ROSS (*Calgary East*): But there are cases where the rat population becomes destroyed; the population dies off.

Mr. ALLAN: We have not had direct evidence that such a situation is caused by epidemic disease. It is caused, more frequently, by uncontrollable loss of water and the resulting freezing out, or the deep freezing of the marshes locking away the food supply, so that the rats die of malnutrition.

There are two diseases to which muskrats are subject. One is tularemia; the other sounds something like cocciditis. These things have made some ravages in Louisiana, but we have had no outbreak of them in this country although we are afraid of them because, as soon as you create a condition of over-population, you are more prone to have such diseases. But the encouraging thing about it all is that during the years of the greatest drought, we had our success. When there was not a rat taken in the wild land, you might say,

or at least when the production in the wild land was reduced to about the lowest in history, we took off the biggest crops. Even this year an Indian from Chemahawin, or, as it is better known, Cedar lake, told me he had travelled in February through the marshes from end to end, by dog team, over 75 miles, and he said there is not a rat anywhere except on the development. In a territory surrounded by marsh-land of similar character we took a crop of 205,000 rats, and I venture to say that there were not 2,000 rats taken in an area twice the size of that off the development. We can produce the rats irrespective of weather conditions if we can get a water supply. In that instance the water comes from the Saskatchewan river. The water rises in the river to a point where we can take it and flood the marshes and it is a never-failing source of supply or has been so during a period of eight years. Sometimes we get far too much water, but we have always been able to get enough to replenish the basin that we are developing to maintain muskrat life.

Mr. MACNICOL: When the marsh is full of water, you put up an earth dam across the inlet?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes. We use a stop-log control dam to keep the water on. Otherwise it would only run out again when the river fell below the level of the marshes.

Mr. MACNICOL: Now, the first item you ask for is \$100,000. Will that finish the Sipanok area?

Mr. ALLAN: I do not think it would, but as we visualize it to-day it would. Just as soon as we get that development up to a certain point we are going to find that there are areas around it that are also capable of being developed on our 520,000 acre lease.

Mr. MACNICOL: 520,000 acres?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, 520,000 acres under lease from the Saskatchewan government.

Mr. MACNICOL: Now, coming to the next item, No. 2, where you ask for \$150,000 for the Athabasca Delta, Alberta?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, south of Lake Athabasca.

Mr. MACNICOL: Yes, I have been all through there. I was going to advocate that the river channel goes right straight through into Athabasca lake, instead of flowing in many miles to the east. Would that interfere with your proposed development?

Mr. ALLAN: I doubt it.

Mr. MACNICOL: You know where I mean?

Mr. ALLAN: You want to go right up to the end of Lake Athabasca?

Mr. MACNICOL: It might not be feasible.

Mr. ALLAN: It may be. I do not think it would affect us, anyway, because we want only flood water, and we would get the water anyway at peak, no matter where your steamboat channel was.

Mr. MACNICOL: The Athabasca territory is full of rats. You should get hundreds of thousands there.

Mr. ALLAN: It is reputed to be one of the very finest potential areas that we have in Canada.

Mr. MACNICOL: And you ask for \$150,000 there?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, that would finance a modest program. We have never had an area which cost us more than \$1 an acre to develop, and I think that appropriation would develop 150,000 acres in the territory. We have only about 50,000 acres on the Indian reserve, and the balance of the territory would be taken over in co-operation with the province of Alberta. Our reserve, that we are ready to direct, is between Fletcher channel and Goose channel.

Now, to the west end of Fletcher channel there is another area of exactly the same character that Alberta would be likely to throw into the program in order to make about 150,000 acres of development.

Mr. MacNICOL: What about the area to the west end of the lake?

Mr. ALLAN: There is an excellent area in there too, but its development would be difficult due to the fact that it is really a marsh that is continuous with the lake and every time you get a northeast wind the lake moves down. You would have great difficulty with your engineering structures, because your retaining dykes would become eroded overnight by the wash of the waves.

Mr. MacNICOL: Down the Slave river, after leaving the Peace river Junction, with the slave, there is a vast area there. Is that suitable for your uses?

Mr. ALLAN: It would be if you could find a method of developing it; and the same thing applies to the mouth of the Mackenzie at Aklavik. As yet we only know one method of control, but there are other methods that can be worked out by engineers. The work that has been done here was done largely without expert engineering advice. It has been done just by farmers, methods or according to beavers' methods, but there are other methods of development that we, as far as I personally am concerned, just do not know how they are going to be handled.

Mr. MacNICOL: You said, the first day, how many millions of rats were produced at the mouth of the Mississippi river.

Mr. ALLAN: From 2,000,000 to 7,000,000 a year.

Mr. MacNICOL: How many rats are we producing?

Mr. ALLAN: The highest production we ever had in Canada would be less than the smallest one of those figures, less than 2,000,000.

Mr. MacNICOL: Did we ever go over a million?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, I think we have exceeded a million, but I do not think we have ever reached 2,000,000.

Mr. MacNICOL: But if we produced 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 rats and sold them at \$1 apiece, it would go a long way towards reducing the yearly interest on the national debt?

Mr. ALLAN: A well known American authority has said that there was enough fur, potentially, in northern Canada to pay off the national debt.

Mr. MacNICOL: It all looks very interesting, and that is rehabilitation work.

Mr. ALLAN: Very much so.

Mr. MacNICOL: If these Indians can be brought along so that they get a larger and larger place in this whole picture as guides, foremen, overseers on fur farms, and fur men, so much the better.

Mr. ALLAN: The last day I was here I used the word paternalistic. There is nothing that I have ever heard of in governmental development that was as generous to the participants as this, because there is in it no profit to anyone, unless you call the 20 per cent cut taken by Manitoba as a profit, which it is not; it is only a levy in order to cover the cost of administration and expansion of the projects.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions you would like to ask Mr. Allan with respect to this fur rehabilitation program, or proposed program?

Mr. AUTHIER: Would it be possible to make use of the reservoirs that have been created on the rivers in the province of Quebec, like the St. Maurice, or the reservoir on the upper Ottawa river?

Mr. ALLAN: There is one thing about rat development that people sometimes lose sight of and that is that too much water is just as bad as too little water. You cannot develop muskrats in 14 or 15 feet of water. It has to be

evenly spread over 2, 2½ to 3½ feet. When you get these huge bodies of water, such as behind the Quebec power dams, at the extreme limit of their effect, you may create rat habitats, but the great bulk of it is all useless, just as if the water were dried up, because the water is too deep.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions?

Mr. TUSTIN: Would that argument, or statement, also apply to the dams up on the Gatineau?

Mr. ALLAN: Yes, I think so.

Mr. TUSTIN: And you have no territory developed there?

Mr. ALLAN: No.

Mr. MacNICOL: Since Mrs. Neilsen represents the area in which the Beaver river flows, I might say that it got its name from being a beaver habitat.

Mr. ALLAN: Just a series of beaver dams that created this little chain of lakes.

Mr. MacNICOL: Is that area envisioned in your program for extending the beaver?

Mr. ALLAN: It would be one of the first areas to engage our attention.

The CHAIRMAN: I see that Mrs. Neilsen has already arranged that.

Mr. ALLAN: It is just a series of little bayous, where you have little land-locked pools or puddles all along, with the river running in the middle of it. It is very interesting. We considered the area at one time, but we abandoned it later on account of the difficulty of damming the Beaver river. As we said the other day, we have three small places like that up in Mrs. Neilsen's constituency and the adjoining constituency.

Mr. MacNICOL: West of that near Lake Labiche where the Beaver river starts, I walked over to the source of the Beaver by following a tiny little river. That country is beaver country, too.

The WITNESS: All the way up in the Peace River country there.

Mr. MacNICOL: And it goes right over to the lake Labiche, doesn't it?

The WITNESS: I don't really know.

Mr. ROSS (Calgary): And that would be all marsh land, close to the water, where the water would be two or three feet deep, so deep that it will not freeze on the bottom to kill the rats and yet deep enough that there is water remaining there all the time?

The WITNESS: Water deep enough so that the rats can live there the year round and sufficient so that there will be water there for them even after the winter frosts set in. It must be marsh land and the marsh land must be close to a source of water where you have natural water supply. The normal run-off from a small watershed would not give you an adequate supply of water. You can get a lot of water in the springtime, but that is what is called phantom water; you have a considerable quantity at the time of the spring run-off, by the end of August it drops from 16 to 36 inches and that does not leave sufficient water for the rats to thrive on. We must insure an adequate supply of water for their purposes or they die.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions on this?

Mrs. NIELSEN: You are right there, we used to see them migrating past our place, the rats migrate particularly during a dry season in search of water.

The WITNESS: That is right.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, are there any questions? Mr. Allan has finished what he had to say.

Mr. MacNICOL: There are some questions I believe from Mr. Ross.

The CHAIRMAN: I think that Mr. MacInnes, the Secretary of the Department, might answer questions. Would you come up here now, Mr. MacInnes?

Mr. T. R. L. MacInnes, Secretary, Indian Affairs Branch, called.

The CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. MacInnes is Secretary of the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources.

The WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, will I await questions or shall I lead off?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. MacInnes has certain questions which he has been asked to supply the answers to. I think perhaps you better proceed with them.

Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I will begin by reading the questions because they are separated into parts and each one is to be answered separately.

VII. Are tribes allowed to organize themselves for their mutual benefit, and when so organized, may they enjoy a measure of self-government or responsibility for reservation organization and administration under federal guidance or guardianship? e.g. Can they produce and market co-operatively direct to consumers? and can they hold special courts to try defendants for the lesser offences according to Indian conceptions of justice, or must they conform strictly to white man's conception of justice?

The answer is yes, if I understand the wording of the question correctly. Under the Indian Act there is provided a system of local autonomy which in varying degree according to the advancement of the Indian community concerned corresponds to local rural municipal organizations and other legislative bodies with local jurisdiction of that kind; with this qualification that the actions of those elected in the Indian bodies are subject to supervision and control by the Governor-in-Council except in the case of more advanced groups under what is known as the Indian Advancement Act, which have more extended powers and which are under the control of the minister only and not under the control of the Governor-in-Council.

I have here particulars if desired in connection with the application and method of procedure under the election system of the Indian Act. I might explain that this advanced measure is only applied from time to time as it is found that conditions of development and progress warrant that action and that has to be done by order in council. Such orders in council have been applied to the eastern provinces in Canada from Ontario inclusive to the east. In the western provinces with a few exceptions the Indians are still under their own tribal form of organization under a measure of departmental supervision. They choose their own chiefs and counsellors, sometimes by hereditary methods and others by holding meetings at which they make selections, these meetings being supervised by the Indian agent. As you may know, we have a staff of Indian agents dividing up the country, the whole country being divided into agencies or local zones for Indian purposes and their local measure of autonomy is under the supervision of the Indian agent and the agents are under the supervision of headquarters at Ottawa.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): Could they hold courts and try people?

The WITNESS: I was coming to that, that is the second part of your question. No. There is only one law for Indians and white people in Canada; but it is true that in the United States in some parts of the country the Indian laws are followed on reservations (as they call them over there—we call them reserves here). But there is a good deal of dissatisfaction with that and I would like to express the opinion if I may that there would be a great deal of discontent and dissatisfaction among the Indians themselves if they had to be placed under special tribal laws which would be open to abuse and in some cases even to personal persecution. I think the Indians feel that they should have the right to claim, and that they should get the same measure of enlightened justice

through the courts that are open for all the other inhabitants of Canada. If you were to revert to tribal legal practices, I think that would be a very grave step and injurious to the Indians; but as a matter of fact it would only be theory in any event that you were going on because as far as I am aware there is no clearly defined jurisprudence among the Indians, or legal procedure. The only ones I know who have anything approaching that are the great Indian groups and races of central and south America where you have big Indian populations down there and where they had well defined courts and laws the same as are found in the Navajo country where there are some 50,000 Indians occupying a large area in the southern United States, and where they have a fairly highly organized form of law and procedure of their own and the American government allows them to follow it in a certain measure under supervision. But there is nothing like that to work on in Canada.

Mr. MacNICOL: What about the Iroquois?

The WITNESS: Not in Canada.

Mr. MacNICOL: No, but in New York state.

The WITNESS: In New York state on the Tonawanda reserve, which is a large reserve near Buffalo; I cannot speak with authority of American procedure, but I believe there is some exercise of tribal justice there and that there is a great deal of confusion about it. An American official—I think it was Mr. John Collier, the Indian Commissioner for the United States—told me that he led to a lot of difficulty there because they are under two laws at the same time; that the Indian's friend and protection is the state law when it suits them to claim it, and to operate under their own tribal laws when it suits them. That is why it did not work so very well.

Mr. Ross: In 1934, President Roosevelt, speaking about Indian affairs, used these words:—

Certainly the continuance of autocratic rule by a federal department over the lives of more than 200,000 citizens of this nation is incompatible with American ideals of liberty. It also is destructive of the character and self-respect of a great race.

Then, later on, in 1940 the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in making his report speaks of the Indian way of disciplining their own members, he speaks of working out satisfactorily.

The WITNESS: Well, I am not at liberty, Mr. Chairman, or I am not qualified really to express a definite opinion about the experience in the United States; but I do think I am voicing the opinion of everybody experienced in Indian administration in Canada that it would not be very satisfactory here. For one thing the Indian communities in Canada are very small. There is not the volume of population and organization that could properly set up a self-sustaining separate court or judiciary, and they haven't any real system to go on except possibly among the Iroquois at Brantford and even there it would be very sketchy indeed. Ninety-five per cent of the population would certainly want to go into Brantford to a regular court if they had any litigation to decide rather than to do it by any tribal organization. It is difficult for me to conceive how in the United States in the eastern and more settled parts of the country there can be any advantage to the Indian. As I mentioned before there are large sections in southwestern United States which have very considerable Indian populations, and of course there it would be a different set-up.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. MacInnes has a set of questions which were supplied to him and he has prepared answers to them. Should he go ahead and give answers to those questions; or, do members of the committee want to ask some other questions as he goes along, what is your wish?

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Mr. MacNICOL: What is Mr. MacInnes' special department or branch?

The CHAIRMAN: He is Secretary of the Indian Affairs Branch. Would you go on, please.

The WITNESS: Question No. 8:

How many Indians take part in the administration of the Indian Affairs service

(a) on the reservations

(b) at provincial or federal headquarters?

There are approximately 500, of whom 2 (persons) are at Federal headquarters. We have no information on provincial headquarters because we do not have anything to do with the provincial services. There may be some Indians employed in them; if that means in the service of the provinces. Of that 500 I might explain that the great majority, 350 of them, are engaged in the fur projects, the service which Mr. Allan detailed to you in his evidence. I might explain that we did have some Indians in our departmental services a few years ago, more than we have now. Owing to present employment conditions more attractive offers and opportunities are supplied and, they have been leaving us, like so many of the white people in the civil service have been doing also. So that possibly after the war when employment conditions change and labour is not affording such a high premium as it is today, more Indians may come back to our service. Personally, if I may express an opinion on that point, Mr. Chairman, it would be this: that Indians as a rule like to get away from the Indian departmental service and branch out into other fields of endeavour where they are more independent, to where they are separated from being associated with the supervision of their own people; and on the whole I think that is better for them. I think they do better in other departments of the public service and in other walks of life when they detach themselves from the Indian administration and set out without any association of that kind to complicate their position.

Mr. Ross: How many are employed up here at Ottawa?

The WITNESS: I mentioned that there are two. There are just the two. Formerly there were four of them, I think. We have not had very many applications for positions from Indians in the office at Ottawa. An Indian has the same right as any other member of a community in Canada to participate in any civil service competitions and if he is qualified he can be appointed to a position in the Department or any other.

Mr. Ross: But they are not educated sufficiently to qualify them for positions in the civil service, are they?

The WITNESS: The ordinary education on the reserve is such as to carry them only through the primary school, but where they show aptitude assistance is given to Indian pupils for secondary and higher educations.

Mr. Ross: Take the reserve at Morley, they are not carried through the primary schools there in the Indian school at Morley. Let me say first there are 153 Indian children of school age on the Stoney Reserve at Morley and only 100 of them are attending school; what about the other 53 who are not at school at all apparently.

The WITNESS: Well now, that comes under a special service in our establishment, the training services. I think I would have to refer that question to Mr. Hoey.

The CHAIRMAN: Better leave that for Mr. Hoey.

Mr. Ross: I would rather have that dealt with now, because we are dealing with Indians and their opportunities. You take in Washington there are 83 Indians employed in the government service there. They seem to have more

opportunities for advancement there under the Act which was passed in 1934 and they are making great advancement and they are going into the service there because they are qualified for that work. You say there are only two people at Ottawa. I submit that the reason for that is that there is no proper training to fit them for Ottawa, that is why. I think we should consider our schools before we attempt to answer these other questions.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I am very much in accord with what Mr. Ross is saying, Mr. Chairman. The statement the witness has made this afternoon indicates definitely why more Indians are not employed here at Ottawa, they want to take employment elsewhere. They can do that if they have adequate education. They should be assisted in fitting themselves to take their proper place in society. We should work to see that if possible every member of the young generation of Indians becomes really a part of our nation. We do as much for people who come from European countries; for instance, take the Hungarians, or any other country of Europe; they come here, they are educated and they are no longer Hungarians or Austrians or people from European countries; they have become Canadians. Just the same way I think it is equally important that Indians should be educated to become Canadians themselves.

Mr. MacNICOL: We owe it to the Indians. We took their land away from them.

The CHAIRMAN: It is immaterial to me whether the committee deal with the questions which were placed before these gentlemen the other day or whether we ask Mr. Hoey to deal with the question which has been brought forward by Mr. Ross. You all know what we did. We sent over to the Indian Affairs Branch various questions that came in from the members and asked that the people best qualified prepare themselves to answer those questions.

Would you just answer that question, Mr. Hoey; nobody is giving evidence at the moment, because all of you are as open to questions as any of you. Would you, Mr. Hoey, or any other members of the delegation, just feel free to rise and answer any question as it is asked that seems pertinent to his immediate concern.

The WITNESS: You said a moment ago that there were 83 people employed at Washington; of that number how many were employed in the Indian Affairs Department, do you know?

Mr. MacNICOL: And there are quite a number employed at Albany in the State Department too.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoey, will you answer that question, please?

Mr. HOEY: Mr. MacInnes indicated that there were two at Ottawa. That answer might be very misleading. He had in mind the Indian Affairs Branch. We have a very high official in the Department of Mines and Resources. I am not sure that I can give you his official title, but I think he is economic adviser to the Bureau of Mines. He is an honour graduate of Queen's University and a member of the Six Nations' tribe. He is an outstanding civil servant at Ottawa.

Mr. RICKARD: And he is at Ottawa now?

Mr. HOEY: Yes. We have in the Department of Naval Affairs four members of one family from Golden Lake. So don't feel too much alarmed by the fact that we have only two in the Department of Indian Affairs.

Mr. Ross: It is the Indian Affairs Branch that I am speaking about.

Mr. HOEY: I think there is a little incident which would illustrate what I have in mind, if I might be permitted to relate it to you off the record.

(Discussion continued off the record.)

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On the Six Nations' Reserve we have fourteen schools with fourteen teachers all fully qualified and all of them Indians. In the Six Nations' office the chief clerk is an Indian. The farming instructor, a graduate of Guelph, is an Indian. The man in charge of soldiers' settlement who is also in charge of the farming instruction work is an Indian. Dr. Jamieson who was until quite recently the doctor at Caradoc, is an Indian. And the doctor whom we had until quite recently on the Caughnawaga Reserve was an Indian.

I want to make this whole question as fair to the Department and as fair to the Indian as possible. We do not want to denounce ourselves unnecessarily. Now, I was looking at the figures and we have 1,885 young men and young women—

The CHAIRMAN: Might I interrupt there for one moment? I should like to tell the committee that in my own constituency a year or so ago we had a full brigade. The commander-in-chief of the brigade was a full-blooded Indian, and every soldier in the brigade, so far as I know, was a white man. He was in complete charge of that brigade which, as you know, was quite a large army force, and everybody liked him. He made an excellent success of his end as long as he was there. I just wanted to get that on the record.

Mr. Ross (Middlesex): Is that active?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mrs. NIELSEN: May I ask if you are satisfied with the educational facilities as they exist?

Mr. HOEY: Will you permit me to answer Mr. Ross's question that I got up to answer?

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): You have not got near it yet.

Mr. HOEY: You have got to be exceedingly careful in these matters. When we take the census, the enumerator goes into the Morley reserve and he makes out the band list and he discovers that if all the people attached to that band were living there, and if they had all their children living with them, there would be on that reserve 153 Indians. Some of them may be in the United States, some of them working in Calgary; several of them may be in Winnipeg. But that is the list and that is the only place to which we can attach them in our census report, and that shows 153 children of school age, with accommodation for 100.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): My question is, what about the other 53?

Mr. HOEY: Before I answer that question, I would have to be assured that there are 153 children of school age on that reserve. I looked up the records very carefully. The Morley school is one of our oldest residential schools. It is operated by the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Canada in Indian mission work are very aggressive, and if I may say so, somewhat enthusiastic. We have not had a single request from that Home Mission Board of the United Church for additional accommodation for Morley since I entered the department. We have had requests from the Home Mission Board of the United Church for additional accommodation at Alberni, at File Hills, and at a dozen and one places. But the fact that they have not asked for additional accommodation there, the fact that the public school inspector, in his report, has not drawn our attention to it leads me to believe that the children are not there. I will give you an illustration of that. I went into a reserve in western Ontario less than a year ago. I said to the agent, "A great many of your people are off the reserve." He said, "Fifty per cent." I said, "What?" He said, "Fifty per cent." I said, "Where are they?" He said, "Fort Huron, Sarnia in the rubber works, St. Thomas and London." I said, "Do you mean to tell me there are 50 per cent?" He said, "Yes." I do not know how many there are at

Morley, but I am inclined to think that the accommodation at Morley of 100 is reasonably adequate, Mr. Ross, or I would have heard about it.

Mr. MacNICOL: It runs in my head that when I was there last summer there were 104, but that is subject to correction.

Mr. HOEY: That is the only answer I can make.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): There are supposed to be 153 pupils there, and under the Indian Act there is compulsory school attendance.

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): And yet these other 53 are not attending school, apparently.

The CHAIRMAN: What do you base your figures on? Have you got that?

Mr. HOEY: That is the census.

Mr. MacINNES: That figure is correct.

Mr. HOEY: I explained that, Mr. Ross. When our census enumerator goes in, an R.C.M.P. man or whoever he may be, he has got to attach all Indians that nominally belong to the Morley band to that agency. There may be 50 of them living in Edmonton.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): But have you made inquiries with regard to this other 53, as to why they are not in school? Or has that matter been followed up by the department?

Mr. HOEY: It will be followed up now. This is the first time it was brought to our attention. As I said before, we have had no requests. We know how anxious the churches are to accommodate pupils. They are down here every month.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): But up to the present it has not been followed up?

The CHAIRMAN: It has not been brought to their attention.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): No. But I would think that the department would look into these things, and that if they saw there were 100 children in school and 153 on the reserve, the department would follow that matter up.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Suppose some of those parents from the reserve go into St. Thomas or into London; they take their children, presumably. Are those children able to go into the ordinary public schools?

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Mrs. NIELSEN: You should be able to arrive at the exact figures by the enrolment of pupils.

Mr. HOEY: No. Only when they ask us for tuition fees. You will find the average city, town or village very kindly disposed towards Indian families living in their midst. When they go into Sarnia, the Sarnia School Board may meet and say, "We have 26 Indians from the Caradoc reserve attending our schools and causing congestion in our class rooms. It is not fair to our own taxpayers." They may ask us for a tuition fee. But in a city like Brantford or London or some of the larger places, they are glad to have them. Their parents are working there. We have no track of them. These are very unusual times in which we are living. If we kept or attempted to keep a close check on all the Indians who are living off reserves, we could not do it. Our senior school at Caughnawaga was burned three years ago. I think it had twelve rooms. It was a huge building. We experienced the utmost difficulty in getting accommodation for the pupils immediately following the destruction of the school by fire. Do you know that there are so many of these Indians absent from the reserves now, probably in the United States, that we have accommodation for all the children offering. The times in which we are living are so unusual that you have to be careful in handling these figures.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): How much is paid to the churches for the education of these children? I suppose the department pays the churches for the education of these children?

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): How much?

Mr. HOEY: \$165 to \$250 per pupil per annum.

Mr. MacNICOL: Per pupil?

Mr. HOEY: Yes. A per capita grant we call it.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): How is it fixed? You say it ranges between certain limits. How is that fixed?

Mr. HOEY: It was fixed a number of years ago by an investigation and a contract was made in the case of each school, the secretary of the Home Mission Board signing for and on behalf of the school authority of the United Church and the deputy superintendent general signing for the department.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): How many years would that be?

Mr. HOEY: I think that was in 1911. I have a copy here.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): And those are the same figures as were fixed at the time of this agreement?

Mr. HOEY: That was basic. The basic rate was set then and has been modified by investigation, by consultation and by negotiation. Reverend—

Mr. MacNICOL: The United Church?

Mr. HOEY: 1911. You will see it there (showing).

Mr. MacNICOL: I would not know.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): In 1941 what was it fixed at? That is what I want to get at.

Mr. HOEY: Of each school? Norway House school at that time would be fixed probably at \$100 per capita; because the cost of living increased during the last war, and they were paid a cost of living bonus then. That later was added to the per capita grant. Just now I should hasten to add that in addition—

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): The cost of living has doubled probably since 1911.

Mr. HOEY: In the last two years we have been paying them an additional \$10 grant; and this year the Minister increased it to \$15, cost of living bonus, in addition to their grant.

Mrs. NIELSEN: When was that done?

Mr. HOEY: It is in this year's estimates.

Mrs. NIELSEN: It is just in this year's estimates?

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Because I have here a brief, which was submitted by a committee of the churches co-operating with the government in Indian education, of January last year. They mention this question, and they do not seem very well satisfied with it. May I just quote from this brief, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly.

Mrs. NIELSEN: It says here:—

In the days of the depression, cuts were made in the per capita and were progressively restored, the last restoration of 5% being effective January 1, 1939. This restoration did not last very long, and by unilateral action an arbitrary cut in the authorized pupilage was made in May, 1940, retroactive from January 1, 1940, so that no school can be paid for 100% of its attendance but must be content with a payment

of 92.24% of what it might earn if the full pupilage were present. The churches might understand a reduction of per capita as being more or less logical, but an arbitrary figure of 92.24% of attendance does not seem to be very logical. The government says, in effect we shall build a school to house 100 pupils. It is quite full, as shown by the enrolment, but we shall pay for only 92.24% of this authorized pupilage; the reason being that there must be some reduction in wartime. Without discussing the need of economy, the churches would point out that the sufferers are either the Indian children, who must be denied an education,—or the churches who, moved by pity and sympathy, must devote some of their resources to seeing to it that the Indian children have an opportunity for an education. If the education were of the kind generally known as higher education, some argument might be applied, but the government should remember that this is absolutely elementary education, and that the very thing for which the United Nations are fighting is being denied to Indian children. To the churches, it is unthinkable that Indian children should be denied education; and the churches, which have shown a consistent backing of the war effort and which have provided hundreds of chaplains, should not be called upon to assume this added burden. The churches request that they be paid 100% of their just bill for services rendered on the basis of a contract entered into.

This should be explained. It seems to me that in education, even in war time, no cut should be made. I do not think that is the place where a cut should be allowed, speaking for myself.

Mr. MacNICOL: I think they should explain it. I received the same complaint.

Mr. HOEY: In the midst of the depression, certain demands were made by the public and governments in those days were compelled to do certain things even in educational effort. Now the government in the early thirties discovered that there would be, say, \$2,500,000 or \$3,000,000 voted for payment of per capita grants and that the attendance for the year worked out at an average of 92.24. Year after year that money would be voted and year after year the attendance would be in the lower nineties, and year after year there would be a surplus. The dominion finance ministers and provincial treasurers in those days had to scrutinize their budgets very carefully, because they had to dispose of their bonds; and the finance minister of that day took this position. It was not an educational matter at all. He said, "What is the sense in voting money that is never used? Why not vote it at 92.24? Your attendance at the residential schools has not exceeded that during the last five-year period or the last decade." That was done. When I came into the department, I discovered that we were paying per capita grants on the 92.24 basis and it was an exceedingly difficult thing to work out mathematically. It was just a nuisance, if I may say so. But times were pretty bad in 1936, and the government did not feel then like voting money that was not needed or was not used. So we still continued to vote it and that is what the churches are referring to. It did not matter, Mr. Ross, in the case of the average school. Your average attendance had to exceed 92.24 before you suffered. But it was wrong in principle because it did not encourage the ambitious, the enthusiastic residential school principal to get his attendance up to 100 per cent.

Mr. MacNICOL: That is the point.

Mr. HOEY: And in that it was wrong. But I do not want the members of the committee to think that the government of that day or any other day made that cut deliberately, against educational effort or against the schools. That is how it worked out. That is common sense. For two years we have been paying

them an additional \$10 per pupil. This year we will pay them \$15, and that 92.24 is restored to 100 per cent in this year's estimates.

Mr. MACNICOL: That is the residential school that you are talking about?

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Mrs. NIELSEN: There is one other point about the education of these Indian children that I should like to mention. I can remember talking last summer, when I went back from Winnipeg, to an archdeacon of the English church who was looking after Indian affairs and schools and I was somewhat appalled at his attitude. He is a very fine person, and I do not want to say anything against him, but it was an attitude that I have heard expressed by others. He complained of the numbers of girls whom they educate in their schools, and then he said, "Of course, we train them and we feel that they are best fitted for domestic service." He said, "We send these girls into good homes." And he said, "After a while they learn how to keep house nicely, but then eventually they marry and go back into the reserve, and you should just see their homes after a little while." It seems to me that there is something wrong with our whole attitude towards these young girls. Why should Indian girls be more fitted for domestic service than any other type of girl? Why should we not endeavour to fit these young girls to take their part in the usual life of the country and to go into the various forms of service?

Mr. MACNICOL: I say that too.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I am very much opposed to the idea of just educating the Indian people to take on the rough kind of work. Why not give them every opportunity and facility, if they are capable of absorbing it? There will always be a certain percentage who will not be capable of absorbing it, the same as there is a certain percentage of our own people not capable of absorbing such education. But I do not like the attitude that so many people seem to have towards the Indian people, that they will educate them to a certain limit, and then if they go back to the reserve after that, it is through some fault of the Indians themselves. I do not believe that it is. The reason why many of these girls who have been brought up in fairly decent homes and taught domestic service revert back to perhaps slatternly sort of women when they go back to the reservation is that they have not the economic means of keeping a home. It is not any fault of the Indians themselves.

Mr. RICKARD: What can you do about it?

Mrs. NIELSEN: Break down a lot of prejudice, and see that the Indian people have the same right of employment as anybody else; see that the girls do not have to go back to the reserves but that gradually the younger generation of the Indian people are absorbed into the life of Canada, that they live in cities like the rest of us. They do not have to go back to the reserves. A lot of people seem to think they will always have to live there, that you cannot do anything with them. But I think that, speaking of that younger generation of Indian people, we should bring them up to take their part in the general life of this country and forget about the reserves.

Mr. RICKARD: Yes. But they want to get married and go back to the reserves.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I think that is because they feel a lot of people would wish to have them there, that there is antagonism against them, and that they do not get the same opportunity for jobs as other people do.

Mr. RICKARD: That bears out what I said at the last meeting or previously, that after these girls or Indians are taken to a certain point, they automatically go back to their regular routine and drift back there again.

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): That is because they are treated as inferiors.

Mr. MACNICOL: That is not the whole story, Mr. Chairman. I have visited many of these reserves. I am thinking of the one that was referred to at Muncey. That is one of the brightest. It is a fine big school. I visited the Muncey school; whether it was graduation day or not, but anyway the day I was there, there were a number of girls leaving the school. One of the teachers said to me, "Look at that young woman there. She is going back to her home on the reservation this afternoon." I said, "Why?" She said, "She is finished here." I said, "Where does she live?" Well, she told me where she lived but I couldn't find the home. Then I went to the chief, and the chief told me where she lived. I went to her home. When I got to the cottage, the girl was there by that time. She had got home before I arrived, for I had gone to the council hall and talked to the chief and some others. To my terrific amazement, there was the girl that I had seen perhaps two hours earlier in the residential school, and she now had come home to a house that I do not believe was over fifteen by eighteen at the outside and only one storey. The father and the mother were there, and I have forgotten the exact number of children; perhaps there were four or five other children. There were two bunks in this small place. I suppose the parents slept in one bunk and all the children slept in the other one. That girl would have to go from a nice bedroom in the college to perhaps sleeping on the floor when she got home.

Mr. MACNICOL: I ask myself what can we do from the point where they finish school? It is the same at the school Mr. Ross has been talking about. I talked to the Reverend Mr. Staley. It is capital S-t-a-l-e-y, is it not?

Mr. Ross (Calgary East): I am not sure how he spells his name.

Mr. MACNICOL: He said, "What are we going to do when they leave here and go back to the reservation?" Is there nothing we can do to send those who are eligible say to a business school to learn shorthand or filing so as to give them, as Mrs. Nielsen has said, an opportunity to live as the rest of us live. It seems to me like a waste of money for them to go back to the reservation.

Mr. RICKARD: Suppose she had an opportunity to go on to higher education. Would she have been inclined to do it?

Mr. MACNICOL: She might not. There might be one out of ten who would be inclined to do so.

Mr. RICKARD: She would be more inclined to go back to where she started. From what I can gather that is the attitude of the Indian. I may be all wrong.

Mr. MACNICOL: Take the next reservation west of that, Moraviantown. I take an interest in Moraviantown and I am going to take much more interest in it. The Moraviantown band of the Delaware Indians have an excellent and successful teacher, one of the best I have come across in all my travels, Mr. Fred J. Dodson, who is tremendously interested in Indian education. There were two girls left that school and became nurses. They are both in Detroit nursing. I ask, "Why are they not here in Canada nursing? Can we not get them into some of the Indian hospitals or would they go into Indian hospitals?" That I do not know, but does the department follow up a case like that where an Indian girl trains to be a nurse?

Mr. HOEY: Dr. Moore will answer that, but we have had twenty-two Indian nurses graduate within the last three years. I think there is only one in the service now, and Dr. Moore is not sure that she is in. They simply leave and get married. You cannot keep them in the service. We had a very brilliant student from the Six Nations who graduated in veterinarian science. He had specialized in the diseases of sheep, and immediately following his graduation he got an offer from the New Zealand government. We refer to the Indians as wards of the government. I think the term is to a great extent misleading. They are not wards of the government. They have all the

freedom you and I have. They can become full-fledged Canadian citizens overnight if they want to.

Mr. RICKARD: You cannot make the government or a department responsible for what they do after they leave school.

Mr. HOEY: Not very well; we have 85 young men and women at high school courses this year, and we have not turned down a single request for a tuition grant to assist a pupil going on to high school or college for the last five years.

Mr. MACNICOL: I wrote for one recently myself, and you did grant it.

Mr. HOEY: I think you will readily appreciate why that grant was questioned by the agent. We have taken the stand that an Indian girl in order to be a success as a stenographer should have at least junior matriculation before she goes into a business college. This girl had only taken grade nine and had not finished it. We doubted the wisdom of making a grant but after you spoke on her behalf we paid the tuition, but we have not refused a single case in recent years. Perhaps our Indian agents should go out into the highways and byways and compel them to go on to high school and vocational courses. I do not know.

Mrs. NIELSEN: You spoke about the Indians having freedom and not being wards of the government. In my opinion they have the same kind of freedom that there is when men are free to sleep under bridges if they wish to do so, or on park benches. I notice in this church brief here they speak about the very poor attendance in the day schools. This is only the Protestant churches, and I do not know about the Catholic at all, but it says that the enrolment in the day schools is roughly 8,427 and the average attendance is 5,949 or roughly 70 per cent. Then, later on I think they have the very best sentence in their whole brief and one which I think is the kernel of the whole problem. They say among Indian people, "There is no pressure of public opinion which looks on illiteracy as a disgrace nor can either the Indian parent or the Indian child be as sure as the white that education is likely to be of any economic advantage". They do not care about education. Many of them feel why should they care, and go back to the reservation. I think that is our fault because we have not made it as easy for them as it is for our own people to get out into ordinary civilized life.

Mr. RICKARD: But the point is what can the department do or the officials of the department in regard to that very thing?

Mrs. NIELSEN: I think it needs a whole change of policy with regard to Indian people, a complete change of policy towards them. Nothing short of that will overcome the difficulty. I think we need to revise it. After all, our ideas and the policy of the government are still in the horse and buggy stage and the rest of the world has gone by. We need to revise government policy on things like this periodically. I have no quarrel with the officials of the department. I think they are doing the best they can under the circumstances, but I think that with an enlarged and advanced policy all government officials would have a marvellously easier time carrying it through. As it is now I think you are stymied. You are on a leash. You cannot do many things you think should be done. I think you need a complete revision.

Mr. HOEY: We have been living in very unusual times. Since 1930 until now we have passed through the depression first of all and now we are in the war. Perhaps the regular services have not received the attention to which they were entitled. Without attempting to speak personally in any objectionable sense I just want to say that my present assignment is the toughest task that I ever undertook, and I would be the happiest man in Canada if I were relieved of it to-morrow. I am not speaking that way for effect.

Mr. MACNICOL: You have done very well before the committee.

Mr. HOEY: It is the toughest task I have ever undertaken, the most discouraging. There is no sense of appreciation, no sense of recognition.

Mr. MACNICOL: You mean by the white people?

Mr. HOEY: By anybody. I got a letter from an Indian woman three weeks ago. Her boy was killed overseas and I enlarged a photo snap and sent it back to her as a token of my personal appreciation. I got a letter of appreciation from that woman, and that is the first letter of appreciation I got from any source in the department in eight years.

The CHAIRMAN: The committee will give you a vote of appreciation right here.

Mr. MACNICOL: I think the committee wants to help you. We have never had an opportunity like this before to get the background of what you are up against. Every year the departmental estimates come in and they are very meagre. Very likely you do not ask for enough. Perhaps you have not been asking the government to do what you would envision should be done yourself.

Mr. HOEY: It is not an easy thing, Mr. MacNicol, if a man has a sense of responsibility to say just how much he should ask in a critical period like this when we are fighting for our survival. It is not an easy thing for me to make up my mind and say flippantly, "Give me a million dollars for this and a million dollars for the other thing." I look upon these matters rather seriously. I think this is the proper time to review the whole Indian problem. Incidentally, I think the policy in respect to Indian affairs in this country was influenced to some extent by the thought that the red man was disappearing. A very outstanding member of the Anglican church said to me the first year I entered the department, "The better Indians will become gradually assimilated and the others are dying off. There is not going to be any Indian problem a few decades from now." What are the actual facts? The Indian population on the North American continent is increasing more rapidly than any other racial group.

The CHAIRMAN: Is that true both in Canada and the United States?

Mr. HOEY: Yes, and Mexico. On the North American continent it is increasing more rapidly than any other racial group. Our Indian population is increasing at the rate of 1,500 a year. My school population is increasing at the rate of 300 additional pupils.

Mr. MACNICOL: Are you able to get teachers?

Mr. HOEY: Not fully qualified teachers.

Mr. MACNICOL: For instance, we have mentioned Moose Lake two or three times, and Tom Lamb's school. Tom Lamb's school is a nice school, but I believe it was closed for most of a year. What would be the reason for that?

Mr. HOEY: Failure to secure teachers. A great many teachers before they were frozen—I think that is the term—thought that they could render greater service to the nation by going into war industries. A teacher comes to my office and says, "Mr. Hoey, I am idle two months in a year. This nation is at war. I am going to go into a war industry. I am going to leave your school." What can you say to a girl like that?

Mr. MACNICOL: Perhaps I have not told you the full story. I believe the Anglican clergyman stationed at Moose Lake was also the teacher. He in turn would be appointed by the bishop of the diocese. Perhaps the fault was that the bishop could not get an Anglican minister to go up there who would also act as teacher and for that reason perhaps they did not have a teacher there.

Mr. HOEY: We have done reasonably well. Our schools have all been open with the exception of about a dozen. The churches have succeeded in getting teachers where we have failed.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mr. RICKARD: It is the same thing in regard to teachers for white people. You have not got them to-day. They are going into war industry, war work.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Are you satisfied with the idea of residential schools? For my own part I have a feeling that a lot of these Indian children put in residential schools stay there for so many years, their lives become very ordered and they are more or less divorced from their homes. Were these children in a day school they would absorb certain things about nutrition and diet and they would go home and talk it all over with their mothers. They would be taught little things about cleanliness. They would go home and tell it to their mothers. With a day school system a great deal of the education which we are giving to the children would go out at the same time to the parents instead of having children go from residential schools back to these awful hovels. You would educate the parents and the children together. I am very much in favour of the day school in preference to the residential school. I do not like residential schools at all. They segregate the children and lose a great deal of the value of the education. I do not think they are half as good.

Mr. HOEY: I have tried to keep an open mind on the Indian day and residential school. People who perhaps have not had as much to do with both as I have can dismiss the matter just in a sentence that the residential schools are no good, but they use language considerably more forceful than that. We have \$12,000,000 invested in residential schools. I have been losing schools at the rate of one a year, the Alberni school, File Hills school, Caughnawaga. I have not got the replacements, but what is the use of worrying about it? For the time being I am primarily interested in getting the Indians to schools, day or residential schools. With the few years I have I think that is my task. I think we are outgrowing our Indian residential schools. We have been discussing the advisability of closing the Mount Elgin residential school.

Mr. MACNICOL: Then what would you do?

Mr. HOEY: Establish day schools as Mrs. Nielsen says.

Mr. MACNICOL: A public school under the control of the government, take it from the church?

Mr. HOEY: Oh no, not necessarily; I cannot see much advantage in that. If you will read the Act it is a separate school system. We are not permitted to send non-Catholics to—

Mr. MACNICOL: To a public school?

Mr. HOEY: If you will read the Act you will see what it is.

The CHAIRMAN: You do not send non-Catholics to a Catholic school?

Mr. HOEY: And vice versa. I hope I am not expressing government policy. I should like to see residential schools slowly and gradually closed as the Indians outgrow their need for them. I think you will always need a few for orphans and children from disrupted homes. I should like to take a number of them like the Brandon residential school and perhaps the Sault Ste. Marie school and turn them into high schools for the education of Indians from twelve onward to twenty.

Mr. MACNICOL: Now you are talking.

Mr. HOEY: And vocational instruction, elementary agriculture, domestic science and the like. Then, I should like to establish day schools on a little different basis to the basis on which they operate now. I should like to put a man and his wife in charge of an Indian day school with a good residence, but I would not call him a day school teacher at all. I would say, "You are a welfare and training worker; you are going to work here not ten months in the year but twelve months in the year less your three weeks holidays". I would make him a civil servant.

Mr. MACNICOL: Why only three weeks holidays?

Mr. HOEY: That is all we get.

Mr. MACNICOL: Oh, that is all the civil servants get, the teacher gets six weeks or two months.

Mr. HOEY: Two months. But here is what I am up against. You people say to me couldn't your educational courses be made more practical. Well, here is an ambitious girl off the reserve, she starts a garden and just as the garden starts to grow she goes away for her holidays. I would like to get a school-master and his wife to place in charge of our Indian schools, and I would classify them under the Civil Service Act as welfare training officers. Thereby they would become eligible for superannuation, and they should be eligible for superannuation. I do not know of any province in the dominion where teachers do not get superannuation; but our teachers are classified as temporary employees so that we cannot get them into the service and therefore they are not eligible for superannuation benefits.

Mr. MACNICOL: And now, Mr. Chairman, there is a very vital point that should be emphasized in your report.

Mr. HOEY: And I want to say to this committee that I do not want to be considered an alarmist but if that policy continues you are going to get the dregs of the teaching profession only for Indian reserves. There is no escape from that.

Mr. MACNICOL: Should you not recommend to your minister that something of that kind should be brought to the attention of the House?

Mr. HOEY: Again I fall back on the times in which we are living. I am not at all sure that this is just the moment, but it is something that should be given consideration. I do not think, for example, that it would make any material difference if the minister were to make that announcement to-morrow, because you cannot get qualified teachers anywhere, but I do think it would have a very important bearing on the question later on.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I think we should lay the foundation for that now at least.

Mr. MACNICOL: Have you in mind Fort a la Corne, the school there—that is seventy-five miles west of Nipawin. I have been there and I have met the Indian girl teacher at that school. She looked to me to be a very bright type of woman. It was a double school, as I remember it, and her husband was there and was he the teacher in one of the rooms and she the teacher in the other?

Mr. HOEY: Yes.

Mr. MACNICOL: I was greatly pleased to find an Indian school in control of Indian teachers.

Mr. HOEY: We made an analysis a few years ago and we discovered that the average stay of a teacher at an Indian day school is three years. Anybody who knows anything at all about education knows that continuity of teaching service is a very important factor.

Mr. MACNICOL: What is the record with respect to the ordinary country schools, a part such as Mr. Rickard comes from—although, he lives on Highway No. 2 so possibly he would not like to be classified as being in a rural school district—let us take a school in an area back somewhere from where he is, two or three miles; I suppose the average teacher stays there maybe two or three years, and that might be a long time.

Mr. RICKARD: We have had them stay there for as much as fifteen years.

Mr. MACNICOL: You might have the odd one who would stay that long, but that is not the average.

Mrs. NIELSEN: That would be your idea, to combine welfare and training, would it?

Mr. HOEY: Yes, to combine welfare and training; and with that they would look after the dispensing of medicines and the preparation of the noon-day lunch.

Mrs. NIELSEN: You do some of that already, do you not?

Mr. HOEY: Yes, but it should be co-ordinated. We distributed 30 tons of vitamin biscuits with respect to which Dr. Moore has the records, for use in connection with the noon-day lunches; but I have the feeling that at the present time the lunches are not as well prepared as they should be, or as they would be prepared by say mature persons.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I think you have touched on a very important point there, I think that is something which should receive more attention.

Mr. HOEY: My experience in Manitoba was—I provided the noon-day lunch for children in the south-west part of the province—that the time taken up by the average teacher in the preparation of that lunch was out of proportion to its importance. They put it on at 10 o'clock and serve it at 12 o'clock and wash up until 4 o'clock, and he has not much time to teach. If you had a man and his wife in charge of that school, he could dispense medicine and he could dispense relief to the aged and infirm and he could act on the whole as a sub-agent, and he could encourage gardening and things of that kind.

Mr. MACNICOL: And his wife could be sent during the summer holidays at the government expense to summer school where she could take training which would qualify her in nursing duties.

Mrs. NIELSEN: And you would have to pay them a better salary than you do to ordinary teachers.

Mr. HOEY: I think they would be entitled to it, living in surroundings that are not always changing. I do not think an Indian school on the average reserve is a job for a teen-age girl teacher. I think we should have teachers in there who are going to stay. No doubt Mrs. Nielsen having been a teacher like myself will agree with me in this—the man who taught at the school which I attended retired after I came out to this country following fifty years of service in that one rural school; and I assure you that he was one of the most highly esteemed men in the community.

Mr. MACNICOL: That is in the Old Country, that is not in Canada.

Mr. HOEY: No, that is not in Canada.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Give them a good enough salary and they will stay.

The CHAIRMAN: I do not want to interrupt too much. This is all extremely interesting but there is a question in my mind as to whether we have not had sufficient information perhaps on this particular phase of the matter. Should we not go on to some other topic for discussion? I am not interfering, I am just bringing to your mind that it is approaching five and we have other questions to take up. Dr. Moore is here and I think the committee would like to hear from him in connection with the health and welfare of the Indians. I just wanted to bring that to your attention. Yes, Mr. Ross?

Mr. ROSS: Coming back to the Stoney Indian Reserve, I understand that the government pays for the tuition of the students, the boys and girls there \$170, plus \$15 cost of living bonus.

Mr. HOEY: Yes, that would be right. I think I have the figures in here.

Mr. ROSS: Is that enough to pay for the board and tuition of these children? I am told that the churches who run these schools and I am not referring now particularly to this government—the churches who run these schools have to put up another \$100 a head for the students because that is not enough to run these schools. I was wondering if you had heard any complaints to that effect, or if that would be correct?

Mr. HOEY: I would be surprised if the churches put up that much, but the churches have always contributed to the upkeep and maintenance of the residential schools. These schools are audited annually by the department. We get an audited statement ourselves of the exact amount contributed by the government and the amount contributed by the mission societies of the churches, the amount earned on the farm and so forth, so that in very few cases—I do not know of a single case where the church pays anything like \$100 per pupil.

Mr. ROSS: But they do contribute something. I submit, Mr. Chairman, that these should not have to depend on the charity of the church looking after his needs. The Indians are wards of the government and when a person has a ward he is responsible for the ward all the way through.

Mr. MACDONALD (Pontiac): The witness made a statement a few minutes ago that you were mistaken in calling them wards of the government. I want to ask a question bearing that in mind. On the Brantford Reserve I understand that the Indian population there is very advanced, owning their own farms with all modern facilities; are they citizens in the true sense of the word of Canada; do they enjoy full citizenship?

Mr. HOEY: Mr. MacInnis could answer that far more intelligently than I could.

Mr. MACNICOL: Those that serve in the army, yes; the others, no.

Mr. MACINNES: On that point may I say—

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): I mean do they exercise the franchise and fulfil the duties of citizenship?

Mr. MACINNES: They only vote in elections if returned soldiers; but they have the privilege of making application to the department for full enfranchisement by order in council which is never refused if the applicant is a responsible individual, and the average Indian member of that community could become enfranchised.

Mr. McDONALD: Well then, in the light of that another question arises to my mind; what percentage have taken advantage of it?

Mr. MACINNES: A small percentage and the reason is this: I am afraid that it is a financial consideration. Upon enfranchisement they then lose the exemptions of taxation on their land and the protection from seizure by legal process of their real or personal property on the reserve which they enjoy as long as they continue to be Indians.

(Statement continued off the record.)

I have been in the department for 32 years and I have had very long association with Indians in all parts of Canada and I would like to express to you my very deep belief that the Indian of Canada as an individual is equal to the individual of any other race in the world in his potentialities and possibilities, his mental, spiritual and cultural equipment. I do not think there is any doubt about that at all; whether it is in the artistic field, as a public speaker, as a professional man or as a business man, or as a skilled mechanic. Do you happen to know that the Iroquois Indians of the Caughnawaga Reserve and of the St. Regis nearby are the most skilled structural steelworkers in the world? That they helped to put up the Empire State Building, they helped to build the Golden Gate Bridge, they helped to build the new bridge at Niagara Falls, they helped to put up the Singer Sewing Machine building and so on and so on? Even during the depression when jobs were not so easy to get some of these people were getting as high as \$20 a day when working. They sent for them to go away down to Los Angeles and to places all over the North American continent to work because they were at the very top of their trade. We speak of our Indians of being in hard circumstances. There is a general feeling in the main that the Indian is an indigent sort of person. Take the fishing Indians in

British Columbia. I will tell you some amazing things. Of course there are lean years. But in 1941 and 1942 for example, which were big years in the fisheries, they made large profits. Do you know that the Indian outfits with their salmon trawlers—you ought to see them; they are the finest of boats, with copper painted bottoms; you could eat your lunch off the decks, they keep them so clean—made as much as \$300 to \$400 for a crew of about 5 men, in a single night in fishing for salmon off the Queen Charlotte islands? A case was brought to my attention by the Department of Fisheries where a member of a crew, one of the crews of the salmon fishing outfit on a boat from British Columbia, happened to be only a twelve-year old boy. He was available to work on the winch and to help bring the salmon in. His cut of the profits for two months' operations was, what do you suppose? If I told you two or three hundred dollars, you would think that was a tremendous amount for a twelve-year-old boy. It was \$3,600 for two months' work. That shows you how the Indians share in big prosperity when it comes along with the other sections of the community. There was a time twenty-five or thirty years ago in the big fish run years in British Columbia when all the Indians along the northwest coast were rich from the fishing enterprise. That shows you what economic and commercial possibilities the Indians have. I took two distinct and different classes of employment, fishing on the high seas and structural steel work in the skyscraper canyons of New York. Those are two widely differentiated fields of employment and yet the Indians were able to excel in both. There is fair proof that the Indian can get along pretty well if he is out on his own and uses his own self-reliance and initiative; but it is very true that there is a depressing and retarding reserve psychology, a sub-standard economy.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): Would you call it an inferiority complex?

Mr. MACINNES: Yes, it is. It is more than that. It is a dependency complex.

Mr. MACNICOL: Before you leave that, how do you account for the Indians being so alert and so smart in structural steel?

Mr. MACINNES: That is a mystery. It seems a strange thing that when the white men came to Manhattan island three hundred years ago, they drove the Indians away into the bush and bought the island for a couple of cases of rum. Then later on, when they wanted to put up one-hundred storey buildings, they had to get those very same Indians back to build them for them. Is that not a strange thing? It is a mystery. I could not explain it at all.

Mr. MACNICOL: Their heads do not apparently get dizzy at such great heights.

Mr. MACINNES: They are apparently very steady and their nerve is very good at those heights. It is not all the Indians. It is just this particular race of Iroquois who seem to have that particular adaptation to that trade.

Mr. ROSS (Calgary East): Are not other tribes of Indians gifted?

Mr. MACINNES: In other directions, of course. Mr. Allan has explained to you how they excell as trappers, and there are various things that the Indians are good at. I certainly do not need to enlarge upon what Miss Moodie told you about native art.

Mr. ROSS (Calgary East): You have pointed out that the Indians are capable of doing great things.

Mr. MACINNES: Yes.

Mr. ROSS (Calgary East): But we have not got those great things from the Indians yet. As Mrs. Nielsen said a few minutes ago, we are in the horse and buggy days so far as the Indians are concerned. We need a new policy.

Mr. MACNICOL: We need more money to spend. That is one of the troubles.

Mr. ROSS (Calgary East): I think we all sympathize with you people who are officials in trying to carry out your duties as best you can. It is the policy of the government that it seems to me needs revising.

Mr. MACINNES: Well, yes.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): Do you not think there might be something more accomplished with the Indian, where he is taught to depend upon himself like other people? Dr. MacInnes mentioned the case of a young boy earning \$3,600.

Mr. MACINNES: That is a freak case.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): The fact remains that these people are getting money. What are they doing with it? Why do they not advance themselves like other people do?

Mr. MACINNES: Some of them do and others do not.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): Take the case I cited of these Indians in Brantford. Why do they not accept the full responsibilities of citizenship?

Mr. MACINNES: I told you why.

Mr. MACNICOL: They have made a lot of progress.

Mr. MACINNES: Yes.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): I think the thing should be the other way around. They should be brought to depend more on themselves.

Mrs. NIELSEN: The one example given of a boy earning money like that is really unfair, because the proportion of Indians who are able to earn money like that must be very small. You speak about the Six Nations. Of course, they are down in a part of the country where they come into close contact with the white man. The Indians in my part of the country are so different there you could hardly class them in the same group at all.

Mr. MACINNES: No. But the whole Indian population on the northwest coast of British Columbia, numbering some 10,000, are in the way of making big money; they are making a much higher average income among the fishermen on the northwest British Columbian coast than is made by civil servants in Ottawa.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): It is not the amount of money that they earn. It is how much of it do they save and will they do that?

Mr. MACINNES: Does that not apply to other people as well?

Mrs. NIELSEN: They are no different from us. How much of your indemnity do you save?

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): More than you do.

Mrs. NIELSEN: You are lucky.

The CHAIRMAN: Order please.

Mr. MACNICOL: What you have been saying is very interesting, about their being so adept in erecting high steel buildings. About how many of these Caughnawaga Indians were engaged in erecting these big steel buildings.

Mr. MACINNES: The Caughnawaga and St. Regis Indians have supplied 600 to 700 men to that trade.

Mr. MACNICOL: Steel erectors?

Mr. MACINNES: Working on that and associated trades.

Mr. MACNICOL: Would some of them be foremen?

Mr. MACINNES: There are foremen, yes. For instance, the Dominion Bridge Company foreman at Lachine is a Caughnawaga Indian who had a senior position with the company there for going on thirty years. But there is this point that I should like to take the opportunity to point out to the committee.

With all that success, there is still that dead weight on the Indian on the reserve. The reserve was not established for the purpose of coralling the Indian or curbing his liberty or making him uncomfortable. It was established to provide for him a place where he could be protected against despoliation and exploitation. It was a sincere and good move, and it was for a good reason that it was done. But while it may be still necessary as a protective measure in western Canada where the Indians have only been 75 years or less in contact with whites to any extent, where they have not really overcome the first shock of their contact with civilization, on the other hand, in eastern Canada, where the Indians have been in organized districts and familiar with the white man and white man's ways and general life of the community for 200 to 300 years, there does not seem to be any justification for our staying in the Indian reserve business. It is retarding them. Its value is weakening. It is like the child who has passed the weaning stage. If you try to keep him pap fed from then on, he will sicken and deteriorate. Those Indians in eastern Canada who make up about more than one-third of the total Indian population, nearly 40 per cent, I would say, should be divorced from the reserve system entirely and put on their own. It is their only salvation. In eastern Canada we should be climbing out of the Indian reserve problem instead of digging ourselves into it. The trouble is that some of us who are officials are so engrossed with our troubles that we are inclined to look down into the hole instead of up out of it, you see; and I think perhaps we have got to a certain degree of stagnation such as Mrs. Nielsen has mentioned, and that it would be good if we had a little push from the legislative body to do something fairly drastic to speed up in the process of making the Indians a regular part of the Canadian community, without any separate, and what I have referred to as a substandard special status. Do you know that in Québec there are reserves where there is hardly a person with a dark complexion, where many of the people have red hair, blue eyes, freckled faces and speak French. Some of them have French names and some of them have Scotch names. There is nothing to suggest Indian about them, and yet by a legal fiction, which is really Gilbertian, they are maintained as Indians under the Indian Act. They are not Indians. They are just an ordinary French-Canadian village like any other village in Quebec. Yet they are under government tutelage—I will not use the word "wardship" because it is a little misleading, because wardship has a very specific meaning in ordinary law which does not apply to the Indian status. But they are under a kind of tutelage which is absolute nonsense in their case.

Mr. McDONALD (Pontiac): Is that Ancienne-Lorette that you are referring to?

Mr. MACINNES: Yes.

Mr. RICKARD: Is that because they have married Indians?

Mr. MACINNES: No. It is because their male ancestors from far back were reputed to be Indians. That reserve is made up of Hurons who were survivors of the mission of Lalemant and Brébeuf who were brought over to Quebec by the French missionaries 300 years ago—there are a couple of hundred of them living there—they have been bred absolutely white. They are completely miscegenated. There is no trace of Indian about them. Yet they talk about their Indian rights and their ancient Indian history. One of their number who styles himself as leader of all the Indians of Canada, who is going to bring a big convention of Indians here, Jules Sioui, is no more of an Indian than I am; not nearly so much so, to my mind. I am sure I have a lot more Indian about me than he has. That is where you get into the farcical aspect of the situation.

Mr. MACNICOL: I am an honorary chief of a Delaware Indian tribe and my niece said to me on the occasion I was thus honoured that if my eyes were only dark I would look more like one.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions that any member of the committee wishes to ask? If not, I shall ask Dr. Percy Moore to tell us something about medical conditions and what the department is doing, or may do, for the Indians. Dr. Moore?

Dr. MOORE: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I welcome this opportunity to discuss some of the problems in connections with the health of the Indians of Canada. Now, there were some questions which I have read, but I do not think they are very specific. Any specific questions that may be addressed to me, I will endeavour to answer them to the best of my ability.

Mr. MACNICOL: My question has to do with several remote Indian reservations which are quite a long distance away from civilization, as we understand it. I visited one such reservation and I asked the chief, "When the Indian agent arrives here, who comes with him?" He said, "The doctor comes, with him or the nurse, and others". Some doubtless who should not be allowed on the reservation at all when the Indians are getting their treaty money. Hangers-on should be kept off at the time of the treaty money disbursement. Now, on this particular reservation several people had died lately and I asked the chief why the doctor did not look them over when he was here. The chief answered that the doctor comes in with the Indian agent. Now, this particular agent came in by a Diesel engine boat, because he had to go quite a piece to get there. The chief said that the doctor comes in with the Indian agent and goes out with him, remaining for a period possibly running from morning till afternoon. On that reservation there were—I am now speaking from memory—perhaps 150 people. Now, isn't it a physical impossibility for any doctor to examine that number of Indians in a few hours' time?

Dr. MOORE: Quite, sir.

Mr. MACNICOL: Then, what would you suggest?

Dr. MOORE: If I might be permitted to enlarge on what our facilities are, I would tell you what I think we probably should do. I might cite some of the more acute and pressing problems in connection with health administration among the Indians. I know the problem of which you speak. Unfortunately, it is not confined to one reserve. It is quite general. Our health services vary from adequate and complete health service in some areas—

Mr. MACNICOL: You said adequate?

Dr. MOORE: Yes, adequate, to almost nothing in others, in the more unsettled areas. In some of the areas which have been under discussion we have as good health services as have many rural districts, such as the Brantford reserve, and the same at Caughnawaga and St. Regis.

Mr. MACNICOL: They have a very nice little hospital there.

Dr. MOORE: We operate, in all, some fifteen hospitals, and our services range from that all the way to the more remote areas, say to Island Lake, where there are 1,100 Indians, and we have not even got a resident nurse.

Mr. MACNICOL: Why is there not a resident doctor there?

Dr. MOORE: We have not got the facilities for it. The closest doctor to that place is at Norway House, which is roughly 300 miles across the hinterland.

Mr. MACNICOL: If the department or you should recommend to the minister to bring in an estimate and include in that estimate provision for a doctor for that reserve and the cost of putting up a residence for him to live in, the house would certainly pass it.

Dr. MOORE: I hope that I am still in the department at the time when we can supply that type of service, because, to my mind, we are at the present time doing far too much for the Indians in the settled areas, in proportion to what own medical services out of their own pockets and call a doctor from Lachine we are doing for the other Indians. Those at Caughnawaga can supply their

or from Montreal. But, in the north country, the poor Indian has not got the means.

Mr. RICKARD: Can you get the doctors?

Dr. MOORE: No, we cannot. We are faced with a necessity right now. One of our young men, a very bright man, has enlisted, and he has left a forty-bed hospital and 2,000 Indians, and we cannot replace him.

Mr. RICKARD: In other words, even if we did pass such an estimate through the House of Commons it would not do much good, because you cannot get replacements.

Mr. MACNICOL: I have in mind the little church at Fort a la Corne. There are a number of graves around the church and I looked at the ages on the crosses and far too many ran around two to three to five and less than 20 years of age. Their deaths were due mostly to tuberculosis trouble. Is there any possible way or any possible thing we can do to save the Indians from that awful scourge?

Dr. MOORE: I have some figures from British Columbia, showing the total deaths due to tuberculosis there in 1943. The grand total was 583; of which 186 were from among the Indians. There were 397 of all other races who died, but 186 Indians. In terms of mortality rates, which are usually expressed in terms of 100,000 population, that gives an Indian rate of 691 deaths, per 100,000, per year, compared to 47 for all others. That is about seventeen times as high. I think it works out to a comparable figure for the rest of Canada. Our death rate from tuberculosis is from ten to fifteen times as high as among the white races.

Mr. RICKARD: And how do you explain that?

Dr. MOORE: There is more than one possible explanation. Any new race is very susceptible when it first comes into contact with a new disease. For example, when you take the case of measles you get an appalling death rate through measles in the case of Indians in remote areas, such as the Yukon and in British Columbia and along the Alaska highway. In one place there have been fourteen epidemics, and every one has taken a toll of deaths. So it is with tuberculosis. With a weakened people, the Indian who has not been exposed previously is very likely to contract tuberculosis. When they get the disease first they react differently than does a type that is familiar with it over a series of years. The newer ones will have running sores. Now, after several generations of contact with the disease, you get more pulmonary cases rather than glands and bones and joints. They will die with consumption, of course. Another factor which we have to consider is that among the Indians the death rate from tuberculosis is more than ten times as high in the case of the northern Indians than it is with those living more to the south, nearer farming communities. We think the factor may be one of nutrition or malnutrition and we are making a study of it at the present time. The southern Indian eats more the type of food that we eat, such as vegetables, dairy products, and etc., and examination shows no more marked evidence of deficiency diseases than you will find throughout all of rural Canada. But in those northern places, you find such appalling conditions. Every deficiency disease that is known is there. Not frank scurvy, or beriberi, or pellagra, but the ground for them is there and conditions are verging on them.

I have here a report which we prepared, starting in 1942. Two eminent international authorities on nutrition volunteered, through the good offices of the Hudson's Bay Company, and arrangements were made to give them a grant in the way of aerial transportation. In all, some 400 Indians were examined, and we set up the study.

The CHAIRMAN: Put it on the record.

Dr. MOORE:

REPORT OF THE NUTRITIONAL EXPEDITIONARY COMMITTEE

In 1942 a study was made by Dr. Percy Moore, Acting Medical Superintendent, Indian Affairs Branch, Dr. H. D. Kruse of the Milbank Memorial Fund, New York City, and Dr. F. F. Tisdall of the University of Toronto, of the food habits and state of nutrition of some 400 Indians at Norway House. The food eaten consisted largely of white flour, lard, sugar, tea and fish and game, the fish and game usually not being plentiful. The diet was markedly deficient in most of the vitamins and some of the minerals.

Examination of the Indians showed that almost all were suffering from deficiencies, many of them in severe form. There was a moderately high incidence of ocular disease and with visual effects, and lesions of the tongue and gums. It was felt that vitamin deficiencies played a heavy contributory role. Many of the eye conditions produced much discomfort and could not help but interfere with their efficiency. Some degree of gingivitis was almost universal. Thirteen or 300 patients were blind in one or both eyes. It is true they could all be accounted for by present medical knowledge. But again, it is possible that the diseases leading to blindness would be less severe had they a good diet.

Tuberculous infections were very prevalent. Lowered resistance to infection which may be the result of malnutrition is without doubt an important factor in this high incidence of tuberculous infections seen in the Indians at Norway House. There is ample clinical evidence that the poor health, the lowered resistance to disease, the impairment of efficiency, and the lack of initiative were due largely to the type of foods consumed.

As a result of this survey one of the first steps considered necessary in any program to improve the health of the Indian through better nutrition was to demonstrate whether provision of some of the food substances or food factors found to be lacking in their diet would result in an improvement in their health. As the conditions encountered had developed as a result of deficiencies of many years' duration, it was recognized that improvement would not become evident for many months, in fact even two or three years might be required.

A study was set up at Norway House under the supervision of Dr. R. S. C. Corrigan, Medical Superintendent, Norway House Agency, assisted by Miss Mary Wilson, Provincial Nursing Service, who was especially assigned for this duty.

Approximately 300 Indians were chosen for observation. There were 125 given various kinds of vitamins, and the remaining Indians served as a control group. Examinations were conducted by Dr. Corrigan, and coloured photographic records of the eyes, gums and tongues were made at intervals. The Indians were continuously visited at their homes by Miss Wilson to ensure that they were regularly taking the vitamin therapy. Any that were found to be unreliable were discarded from the study.

A second expedition to Norway House to study these Indians was made in March, 1944. In addition to the doctors who made the initial survey in 1942, there were present Dr. H. M. Sinclair of the Oxford Nutrition Survey, England, Wing Commander J. V. V. Nicholls, Consultant in Ophthalmology, R.C.A.F., and Flying Officer Sym of the Directorate of Photography, R.C.A.F. Over one thousand pictures of the eyes, gums and tongues, the majority in colour, were taken by Flying Officer Sym, using a special camera devised by the Directorate of Photography for this purpose. All the subjects receiving vitamins, as well as many of the controls, were medically examined.

As the disturbances of the eyes, tongues and gums were of long standing and had a complicated causation related to trauma, infection and nutritional deficiency, it is too early to expect definite signs of improvement as a result of the vitamin supplement supplied in this survey. Considerable time and work

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will be required before specific details of the relationship of specific vitamins to these disturbances will be known. In spite of the fact that marked general improvement can only be expected if all the deficiencies were corrected, a number of the Indians claimed that they felt much better. It was the opinion of a number of the nursing staff, many others, and the people directly concerned with the study that great improvement had occurred in the general well-being of the Indians.

From the results of a thorough ocular examination of over 300 Indians on this trip, Wing Commander J. V. V. Nicholls made the observation that among the school children, of whom there were 102, ranging in age from 7 to 16, the ocular condition was excellent with almost no severe disease. They were comparable with the best groups of white children. While among the 200 odd adult Indians there was a very high prevalence of eye disease, some of which lead to deterioration of vision. It is to be noted that these ocular diseases are related largely to infection and trauma, and it is a fair assumption that with better nutrition, infection and trauma might well be expected to have less serious effects.

Another point of very practical importance is that the environmental and climatic conditions in northern Canada greatly increase requirements of all food substances. This applies not only to the Indians but also to the fur trade personnel.

It is the consensus of those conducting the study that it should be continued for at least another year. Although the improvement in the Indians receiving the specific food substances is already definite, the first period of therapy really laid the ground work for changes which should be much more marked at the end of another year. Accordingly, arrangements are being made by Dr. Moore to see that the study can be continued, and Dr. Tisdall, Dr. Kruse and Dr. Moore propose to return approximately twelve months hence to review the situation then.

This study is the first of its kind to be conducted anywhere in the world, and the application of its results has wide range with many ramifications. In the opinion of Dr. Moore, Dr. Kruse and Dr. Tisdall, this study is being conducted by Dr. Corrigan and Miss Wilson in an exemplary and commendable manner. It should also be noted that the Indians have cooperated in a wholehearted spirit. The results of this study are not only of importance to the future health of the Canadian Indian, but can also be applied to similar situations throughout the world, and will give information of practical value from the public health standpoint for the whole population of Canada.

It should be noted that the work done last fall by Dr. Ridge in conjunction with the R.C.A.F. nutritional laboratories has made a valuable contribution to our knowledge regarding natural sources of Vitamin C.

The work is being continued at Edmonton by Professor Hunter and the R.C.A.F. nutritional laboratories and the departmental nurse, Miss Fisk, is assisting. She is thoroughly familiar with Indian food habits and is in a position to give practical assistance in the investigation.

Attached are recommendations in which the nutritional expeditionary committee concurs, and also recommendations from W/C Nicholls the ophthalmologist who accompanied the party.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE NUTRITIONAL EXPEDITIONARY COMMITTEE TO THE MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH.

Measures should be twofold:—

- A. Those in which immediate results would be expected.
- B. Those in which the returns would culminate at a later date.

A. Those in which immediate results would be expected:

1. That the present study at Norway House be continued for one more year. It is felt that this is most essential.
2. That a refresher course in the diagnosis of deficiency states be established for selected members of the medical and field staff.
3. That a curative program be instituted for severe acute deficiency states in which multi-vitamin therapy would be supplied to such cases whether in the field or in the hospital.
4. That certain basic articles of food habitually eaten by the Indians be used as a vehicle to carry these food substances which have been found to be lacking in their diet. For example, all flour used should be "Canada Approved" flour, which is high in vitamins, to which should be added Thiamin (Vitamin B₁), Riboflavin (Vitamin B₂), Niacin, Calcium and Iron Salts. Investigations should be made as to the best foods to which Vitamin A and Vitamin C might be added. This might be regarded as a wide-spread Therapeutic program for the correction of chronic deficiency states universally present amongst the Northern Indians. It is felt that this is the most practical means of getting immediate and widespread distribution of these needed food substances to the Northern Indian.

B. Those in which the returns would culminate at a later date:

1. That studies should be continued to determine the availability of local sources of Vitamin C, such as spruce and pine needles. This work has already been started, and the results of Dr. Ridge's investigations conducted last year are most illuminating, and further application of his findings made the information of practical value.
2. That several dietitians be appointed to serve as specialists in instituting the dietary program. It is suggested that they might effectively head an extension service which would cover the entire Indian population. Under such a system the dietitian would select and train the most able lay person in each community, who would then carry out diet education in her locality. This system has been used effectively by the Department of Agriculture in the United States.
3. That the children in every Indian day school be given a noonday meal based on the best available food that would provide a large share of their daily nutritional requirements. It is essential that such a meal should include milk, and where sufficient milk is not available the experience of the R.C.A.F. has indicated that powdered milk properly prepared is just as acceptable and equally nutritious.
4. In addition to all these above suggestions, it is considered essential that a long range program of health education with particular emphasis on the procuring, preparation and eating of proper foods be carried out. It is of equal importance that steps be taken to improve the economic status of the Indians, so that they can procure these foods which are essential to health. It is expected that the improvement of health of the Indian through better nutrition will enable him to help himself in improving his economic status.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that the medical officers in the Indian Affairs Branch be given special post-graduate training to prepare them to undertake refractions and the treatment of common ocular diseases and emergencies.

2. It is recommended that the services of a full time ophthalmologist are desirable to undertake the organization of an ophthalmic service and the supervision of public health and preventive medicine measures instituted toward improving the ocular condition of the Indians.

3. It is recommended that every endeavour be made to improve the standard of living of the Indian.

4. It is recommended that the Indians be given some education in public health matters and treatment of emergency conditions.

5. It is recommended that an adequate, well-ventilated, anti-glare spectacle be supplied to Indians for hunting and trapping.

This is a report of the committee of which the members were Dr. Kruse, an eminent worker in nutrition in New York, and Dr. Tisdall, of Toronto, who is now a group captain in the air force, and myself. I was a member of the party which visited the Indians at Norway House.

We think that if we could improve conditions as to nutrition among the Indian people it would greatly lower the incidence of disease. We feel it is a very important factor. For instance, we found a number of those people to be blind, from conditions, which could be attributed to malnutrition.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Trachoma is very bad?

Dr. MOORE: Yes, it is considered not to be a nutritional disease but an infection. Our worst disease is tuberculosis. Nutrition may be an important factor and nutrition also has a great effect upon the general health, particularly of the northern Indians.

Then to go to some of the specific problems, trachoma is widespread particularly among the western Indians, not so much the northern Indians, but the Indians who live in the most intimate contact with white people throughout the western provinces. They have a high incidence of trachoma which, if left untreated, will lead to blindness.

The CHAIRMAN: Is that disease catching?

Dr. MOORE: Yes, it is highly contagious and a highly infectious disease that leads to blindness. There were some areas in British Columbia where this disease was prevalent and we were making fair progress, because we had one of the outstanding authorities on the North American continent dealing with it, Dr. J. J. Wall, and his services were greatly sought after. Unfortunately this man had to withdraw from the department because of ill health—heart trouble—and we are urgently in need of a trachoma specialist to be attached to the department to carry on this work, because it is a disease that requires highly specialized treatment.

We are having an increasingly difficult problem in connection with venereal disease. Something I am going to say now will just fit in with some of the thoughts of the committee. With employment at a peak, Indians are leaving the reserves in great numbers and coming into centres to live and work, and this raises many social problems. Now, for example, the Indian girl who comes in and accepts employment, usually as a domestic or a waitress at a cafe, has no social outlet, with the result that the contacts that she does make are of a very undesirable type and we are getting increasing numbers of cases of venereal disease and illegitimacy being reported to us. For example, in Prince Rupert, I have a letter in my file, naming 42 Indian women as sources of contact for venereal disease. Their names have been brought to the attention of my department and we are trying to find a building in which to put them. They are being re-infected while they are under treatment.

In general, to improve our facilities in caring for the health of the Indians certain things are urgently needed. I could deal with some in the manner of a brief that I have recently submitted regarding health problems in British Columbia, and I will quote the following recommendations and pass this copy to the committee. I need more full-time health workers; that is our most urgent need. Now, I put in about eight years in the field service before coming to Ottawa and I know intimately, most of the people who are doing medical field work in the Indian Service from one side of Canada to the other. There is a great spread between the benefits we receive from a doctor who is a full time employee of the department, and whose whole interest is in Indian health problems, as opposed to a doctor who is in practice in a town some place near an Indian reserve and is given an appointment to look after the Indians out on this reserve.

Mr. MACNICOL: I agree with you judging by what I have seen.

Dr. MOORE: That doctor may be the best fellow in the world, perfectly honest, and the best doctor in the town, but Dr. Jones looks after his office practice and the white people, and when he has time, if the Indians press him hard enough, he goes out and does some work on the Indian reserve. The Indian is usually uncomplaining about his health. Most times he is timid about going to a doctor and he dreads going and it quite often happens that the doctor is called, about in time to sign a death certificate and probably comes two days late for that. That type of medical service is not worth the money we are paying for it.

Mr. MACNICOL: Is that in your report?

Dr. MOORE: Yes. I can mention an elderly doctor who has been in our employ many years, looking after the health of the Walpole Island Indians and because of ill health he is getting ready to retire. I believe that man put his Indian patients first, but he is an exception.

Mr. MACNICOL: You have a wonderful teacher at Walpole Island. She is a remarkable woman, and her whole life work has been with the Indians.

Dr. MOORE: The only progress I have seen made in health conditions among the Indians is where we have obtained full time departmental doctors and nurses. Unfortunately, some of the Indian groups are too small and the distances are too great to allow for a doctor or a nurse; but as a major policy we should endeavour where there is a group of Indians to warrant it, to have a full time doctor.

Mr. MACNICOL: Where there are a number of reservations close together we should have hospitals.

Mr. ROSS (Calgary East): I was wondering what population would warrant a full time doctor in your opinion.

Mr. MOORE: To judge by white standards—and the health of our Indians is not up to white standards and there is really more work to do—in an institution they think it is necessary to have a doctor for every fifty bed patients, and I think the average that is recommended by the Canadian Medical Association is about 900; a doctor cannot do justice to more than 900. Dr. Davis at the Brantford reserve—one of the outstanding medical men of Canada—is looking after 6,000 Indians there. He has a hospital and good facilities but he urgently needs assistance which he is unable to get. We have a position but we cannot find a man to fill it. We call neighbouring doctors and get what assistance we can.

Mr. MACNICOL: Is that Brantford or Ohsweigen?

Dr. MOORE: Ohsweigen.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Doctor, I hesitate to interrupt you, but is it your opinion that the Indian Affairs branch will always need a separate medical service for this scheme, or do you think that that could be brought under one health

scheme which we are proposing to bring into effect so as to accept the Indian people and give them the same treatment as we do the white people; or is it necessary for the Indians to have more care than the white people?

Dr. MOORE: I have given this matter considerable thought and study and I feel that the Indian health service is essentially an integral part of Indian administration; there are too many family problems. I spend an hour or so a day in consultation with Mr. Hoey and Mr. Allan and other departmental officers on interlocking problems which must be settled. A suggestion has been made to put the Indian medical service under the Department of Pensions and National Health. All right, but unless you put the whole Indian service there, there would be no more sense in that than putting our farming operations under the Department of Agriculture and our education under some other branch and disbanding the whole department.

I made a presentation to a committee studying the financial set-up on this health insurance bill, and I stated what I thought our attitude should be. The first statement was that the Indians of Canada should be provided with health services equal to those of any other citizen of Canada.

Mr. MACNICOL: We took the land from the Indians and we took the country from them, and we are in duty bound to do that much for them.

Dr. MOORE: In administration it is a matter of what is the best way to do it, and I think we have the skeleton of the organization that if we are allowed a sufficient budget we can give adequate health services to the Indians. I think this matter requires some radical changes.

Mr. MACNICOL: The time has come for radical changes.

Dr. MOORE: For the hinterland of the country we have got to institute a flying service if we are going to reach these people. We will have to set up a system similar to that in Australia in their bush hinterlands. We have to get medical services, a doctor and nurses who would go by air to all these remote areas and not simply go in and land with a treaty party and be obliged to move out in an hour because the party was moving on.

Mr. MACNICOL: I am not finding any fault with the medical people; I am finding fault with the system that takes a doctor to a reservation of 150 or more people in the morning and takes him out again in the afternoon. It is not fair to the doctor, and I have no doubt he comes away more broken-hearted than anyone else.

Dr. MOORE: He is defeated. I can name you twenty or thirty groups of Indians in places where there are from 500 to 1,200 Indians who probably have one visit such as you describe in a year from a doctor and sometimes only a visit in two or three years.

Mr. MACNICOL: I hope your department will put in a strong case for fair play. In my judgment the House of Commons has always been reasonable if the members understand the matter. No member of the House of Commons in my time—fourteen years—has had the opportunity this committee has had in this meeting and our previous meeting.

Dr. MOORE: Now, I have stressed the point to full time medical officers, and the next thing is nurses—a nursing service on the reserve. We need nurses especially trained in public health who will go into the Indian homes. I have seen more progress made through the efforts of one woman in a community than by all the doctors in the hospitals in the aggregate, because what the doctors are doing is curing the sick whereas this woman is going in and teaching these people how to keep well, teaching mothers how to feed babies. In a situation where you have an Indian baby taken from the breast and put on potatoes, a baby that from then on never sees milk, you wonder how those babies exist. In fly time they get infectious diarrhoea and I have had the unpleasant duty

of signing fifteen death certificates for Indian children in one week, and not one need have died.

Mr. MACNICOL: I met a teacher at one reserve and she recommended that teachers be sent to some place where they could be taught all the simple things about nursing and medicine.

Dr. MOORE: Yes, first aid etc.; and be in a position to make use of the facilities—

Mr. MACNICOL: And she should be paid accordingly.

Dr. MOORE: I agree with Mr. Hoey's suggestion with regard to these welfare officers. Give them some training and give them the assistance of the visiting nurse going to the reserve and spending time there.

I think there is room for welfare workers among the Indian women and children. I believe that such problems cost the people of Canada millions of dollars because of venereal disease and illegitimacy which could be avoided if we had welfare workers. The provinces have the organization and would be only too willing to cooperate with us in the way of giving some supervision. I have discussed this matter with welfare workers in the provinces and if we could provide these officers who could be trained to work among the Indians the provinces would co-operate with us in supervision, etc. I have covered that matter here.

And now with regard to departmental hospitals. We operate about fifteen hospitals at the present time. It is our experience that these are by far the most adequate and economical hospitals for Indians. Our chief problem, as I said before, has to do with tuberculosis among Indians. At the present time we have almost 1,000 Indians under treatment for tuberculosis, and according to figures that were prepared by the Canadian Tuberculosis Association that figure should be nearer 3,000. We have adequate facilities for treatment of only about 250 Indians in our hospitals although we actually are treating 500. I have seen these criticized in the press, and I was not in a position to defend them because I had seen the hospitals. They have beds in the basements and in the corridors and they have nurses trying to care for these people under inadequate circumstances and running great danger from infectious disease because these hospitals are not large enough. One medical man in charge said, "What will I do? Will I send them back to die? Four of these people will get better if they stay here. If I had a proper hospital, in place of treating one out of four that needed to be treated in that area—"

Mr. MACNICOL: At Munsey you have an excellent doctor in charge.

Dr. MOORE: Dr. Pardy is in charge at present; Dr. Macleod is in uniform.

Mr. MACNICOL: If someone takes sick they have to send him up to London. The doctor I spoke to told me how many there were there—perhaps 1,000. If there were a little hospital there the Indians would go, but they do not like going off the reservation.

Dr. MOORE: These Indians have access to the facilities at the Victoria hospital in London. Think of all the poor people up in the north country who get sick and die in their teepees and never see a doctor or a nurse, let alone a hospital. I feel that our own hospital facilities should be greatly increased. I think we should provide at least 2,000 beds for the care of tuberculous Indians, and I do not think we will make any progress in reducing the terrific mortality among these people until that is done. I think some of those beds should be located in areas where there are large concentrations of Indians, districts like James Bay, where there are 4,000 Indians around the bay.

Mr. MACNICOL: Have you nothing up there?

Dr. MOORE: There are a couple of small mission hospitals.

The CHAIRMAN: Will you go on with your brief?

Dr. MOORE: I think that we need the opportunity for a little more supervision in the work that is done in the field. Until recent years the headquarters administration has been in charge of one doctor with four helpers in the office, one of whom was an Indian, and a very valuable employee.

Mr. MACNICOL: A man or a woman?

Dr. MOORE: A man. He has been there about twenty years. I was appointed assistant superintendent. This is the first time there has been more than one doctor at headquarters. More than that, I think we need more adequate field inspection. I do not have sufficient opportunity to go out into the field and see what is going on frequently enough. We should have more facilities for coordinating our medical program.

The CHAIRMAN: Dr. Moore, at this point you might put your memorandum into the record.

Dr. MOORE: Very well, Mr. Chairman.

Memorandum:

THE DIRECTOR

re: Medical Facilities in B.C.

I wish to refer to the certified copy of a report of a Committee of the Executive Council, British Columbia Government, dated April 6, 1944 on the file hereunder and to which the Superintendent of Welfare and Training has replied regarding education. The following report concerns medical problems in this province.

There is room for marked improvement in the Department's health program in British Columbia. With the exception of Doctor Atkinson, who is in charge of the Vancouver Health Unit, we have not a single full time medical officer in that province. The position of senior medical officer for British Columbia became vacant on the retirement of Doctor McQuarrie and Dr. P. S. Tennant is on leave of absence for military service. We have also an established position at Vanderhoof that we have been unable to fill. Probably in British Columbia as elsewhere in Canada the major health problem is to find an adequate program for the control of tuberculosis. There are two full time doctors on the staff of Coqualeetza Indian Hospital.

In 1943.

Total deaths T.B. all races.....	583
Indian Deaths.....	186
Deaths from T.B. other than Indians.....	397
Mortality rate per 100,000 population	
Indian Rate.....	691
Bal. of province exclusive of Indians.....	47

At the present time there are 300 Indians under treatment for tuberculosis in the province. Of these 178 are in the Coqualeetza Indian Hospital and 10 are in the Queen Alexandra Solarium, Victoria. Only this number can be considered as being under satisfactory treatment. Of the balance 35 are in preventoria operated in conjunction with the residential schools at Mission, Cranbrook and Alert Bay and 77 are being cared for in various general hospitals, the majority being at Port Simpson and Hazelton with others being treated at Vanderhoof and Smithers. This latter group is getting little beyond bed rest and isolation.

The accepted criterion in any program is that there should be three patients under treatment for every death that occurs within a year. It will be seen that accommodation should be provided for 600 Indian patients if an energetic attack on this disease is to be made.

In a recent report from Doctor Barclay he recommends the extension of Coqualeetza Hospital by the provision of adequate staff quarters and building a special children's ward and he has recommended the establishment of a 100-bed departmental hospital in northern British Columbia, probably in the Prince Rupert area. I concur in this recommendation.

There is an almost equally urgent problem in connection with trachoma control. The worst trachoma areas are situated in the interior, centered around Cranbrook, Kamloops and Williams Lake. The coastal Indians and the northern Indians are relatively free from this disease. Progress was being made in its eradication when Doctor Wall was active, but I fear the program now is totally inadequate.

A serious problem exists in regard to venereal disease, in the Prince Rupert area alone 42 Indian women having been named as sources of infection. The British Columbia health authorities have been urging the department to establish an isolation unit where a number of these women could be detained until they had received adequate treatment. In a recent report received it was pointed out that 50 per cent of the female inmates of Oakalla Prison were Indian women and that 86 per cent of these women had venereal disease. In a recent conference with the Chief Health Officer of British Columbia, Doctor Amyot, stated that there were increasing numbers of Indian women who were leaving their reservations and living immoral lives around the towns and cities of British Columbia. He strongly urged the department to consider the appointment of welfare workers for the Indians and stated that they had supervisory facilities and that they would be willing to cooperate in every way. There are many areas in British Columbia where we are completely lacking in any practical arrangement whereby the Indians receive medical care. The worst areas are the west coast of Vancouver Island and the northern portions of Stuart Lake and Babine agencies and the Stikine agency, including all of northern British Columbia.

A marked improvement of health services could be expected if we were able to improve and extend our nursing services. At present we have two full time nurses, one in the Duncan agency and one in the Vancouver Health Unit. In some areas in the Okanagan Valley and elsewhere we have arrangements whereby the local boards of health extend their public health nursing to Indian reserves. Such an arrangement is being contemplated in the Nanaimo area at present.

A large number of Indians in British Columbia accept seasonal employment in the hop fields and canneries. In general living conditions and sanitary conveniences are far from adequate. Following a visit to several hop fields and canneries in 1940 I conferred with the Honourable Dr. Weir, who was then the minister responsible, and with officers of his Department and this resulted in some improvement in certain canneries. Doctor Amyot has informed me that they are increasing their staff of sanitary inspectors and will endeavour to get the hop producers and canneries to improve conditions for the Indians employed.

From all the information available it is judged that there is a grave nutrition problem among a large portion of the Indians in British Columbia. Medical reports on Indians and particularly those in the north, lead me to believe that the majority of these people are suffering from nutritional deficiencies.

A number of hospitals in British Columbia have been demanding rates for treatment and care of Indians that are greatly in excess of any rates we are asked to pay elsewhere in the Dominion. They are out of proportion with what it costs us to run our own hospitals and the hospitals that are asking these rates are not equipped to give services similar to a large city hospital. In particular the hospitals of Nanaimo, Duncan, Port Alberni, Powell River and Creston are demanding \$3.50 per day, plus extra charges for ordinary hospital facilities such as drugs, dressings and laboratory procedures and \$10 charge for the use of the operating room. This raises the public ward rate to \$5 or \$6 a day for

ordinary cases. This is about double what we are called upon to pay elsewhere and leads me to believe that the department should consider establishing its own hospitals wherever it is practical.

With a view to improving health services in this province I would like to make the following recommendations:

1. That the position of senior medical officer for British Columbia be filled as soon as possible. The medical officer who undertakes this duty should be capable of supervising the trachoma program in the province, in conjunction with Doctor Barclay assist in our tuberculosis control program and assist the commissioner in medical administration.

2. Full time medical officers should be maintained at the following points: Prince Rupert, Vanderhoof, Williams Lake, Kamloops, Vancouver and Duncan. It will be noted there are established positions for Prince Rupert, Vanderhoof, Kamloops and Vancouver although only one at present is filled.

3. Nursing services should be extended so that all accessible Indian reserves should be visited periodically by a nurse with public health training.

4. Some trained welfare workers should be employed who would work in conjunction with the program established by the British Columbia health authorities.

5. Departmental hospitals should be established at Prince Rupert and at Duncan. These hospitals should be primarily for the care of tuberculous patients but should be so designed as to be able to care for our ordinary hospitalization in these areas, and for long term cases. Coqualeetza hospital should be extended by provision of a nurses' home, laundry and power house and a children's ward. Arrangements should also be made for adequate tuberculosis survey facilities, either for an arrangement with the province to conduct these surveys or by providing our own survey unit. It will be noted that if the department were to acquire the U.S. Army hospital at White Horse as has been suggested a number of Indians in remote northern sections could be treated in this hospital. This particular brief is drawn up just in connection with health problems in British Columbia, but what I say there will apply equally to any of the other provinces. It will be just different localities. I would be glad to try to answer any questions.

Mr. MacNICOL: Dr. Moore, you have been very frank and full in your explanations.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions of Dr. Moore.

Mrs. NIELSEN: In the brief which you have submitted have you estimated the cost of the extra services which you envisage?

Dr. MOORE: No, I have not. I have not gone into the costs. The cost of hospital construction varies greatly and you need an engineering service. We have been trying to keep informed as to what has been done in the establishment of military hospitals. There are many points I know of where there are good military hospitals which have been set up and fully equipped, and I have been hoping we might have the opportunity to inspect those and try to take some of them over. I submitted information regarding one to the minister's office recently, a 90-bed hospital at White Horse in the Yukon. The United States army are abandoning it this month or next month. We have nothing in that whole area of northern British Columbia and southern Yukon to care for Indians.

The CHAIRMAN: They are abandoning it next month?

Dr. MOORE: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: How many beds?

Dr. MOORE: Ninety.

Mr. MacNICOL: If we are going to do it we should take it up before the frost comes.

Dr. MOORE: They are going to dismantle it in August unless some arrangement is made.

Mr. MacNICOL: The minister knows all about it?

Dr. MOORE: Yes, we have notified the minister's office regarding it. Of course, supposing we were to take that over tomorrow, we would be in a bad way as regards staffing it. It might be impossible to get a staff for it.

Mr. MacNICOL: You might have to put a caretaker in it for a year or two.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mrs. NIELSEN: I should like to ask a few more questions. I am sort of selfish to devote so much time to my part of the country, but I have had no opportunity to see the Indian people in the northern part of my riding because the only way of getting to it is by plane and I have had neither the money nor the time to get up there. I should like to know if you have any services up there at all? I know there are one or two Catholic missions up there. It is the extreme northwest corner of Saskatchewan.

Mr. MacNICOL: You have a doctor in Yellowknife who serves the reservations in east and west yellowknife. I was told he is a very excellent man but I suppose he has a town practice to look after.

Dr. MOORE: There are no facilities for travelling out where the Indians actually are.

Mr. MacNICOL: He would have to have a motor boat.

Dr. MOORE: The doctor at Yellowknife is not in our employ. We have a doctor at Resolution.

Mr. MacNICOL: I understood that the doctor at Yellowknife went out on the reservation?

Dr. MOORE: We pay him for services rendered. If he sees Indians we pay him.

Mr. MacNICOL: Is there a doctor on the reservation?

Dr. MOORE: No. This is in the northwest territories though that you are speaking of.

The CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Nielsen means in northern Saskatchewan.

Mr. MacNICOL: Mrs. Nielsen's riding does not go into the northwest territories.

The CHAIRMAN: The doctor is coming to that now.

Dr. MOORE: I must say on the whole our services there are inadequate. We have a doctor at Isle à la Crosse. He is a joint employee of the Department of Indian Affairs and the Saskatchewan government. We pay half his salary, and there is a mission hospital there. That is the only service north of Battleford.

Mrs. NIELSEN: What about Lac la Ronge?

Dr. MOORE: There is a nurse attached to the residential school at Lac la Ronge, and in various areas we give the missionaries a small stock of drugs and such first aid instructions as we can send out from here. I might say within the last four months Dr. Falconer and myself have completed a booklet that we have been complimented on. We tried to make it such that it would meet the problems of a dispenser on an Indian reservation. We put it in simple language, non-medical terms and called it "A Guide for Drug Dispensers". We sent that out, outlining in simple terms the treatment of ordinary sicknesses. One of our problems, of course, always is that someone sends in word of a seriously ill Indian, "Send an airplane at once". Too often somebody wants a ride out as much as the sick Indian.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): There are a number of questions I should like to ask but it is getting too late now. It seems to me that an inquiry should be held into the whole subject of Indian affairs to ascertain what, if anything, can be done in the way of helping them.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Set up a special committee.

Mr. Ross: Yes, so as to find out what should be done that we are not now doing. Perhaps there should be a board of Indian affairs consisting of persons outside the service as well as those within the service to advise the government on what would be the proper thing to do. However, at the present time I feel that a committee of the House of Commons with powers to call witnesses and to go into the matter very thoroughly and make recommendations to the House of Commons would be in order.

Mr. MacNICOL: I suggested that a couple of years ago.

Mr. Ross (*Calgary East*): I think it would be very helpful, to examine the policy and settle the policy. I think it would be welcomed by the minister and by the officers here so that we can lay down a definite policy of the future.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I am of the opinion that the minister must have great difficulty in having a department which has so many various concerns. It seems to me that this department of Indian affairs ought to be one separate department.

Dr. Moore: We deal with every problem from before they are born until after they are dead, the whole gamut of human relations.

Mr. MacNICOL: The department has been starved for the want of money to carry on.

The CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

Mrs. NIELSEN: I would certainly like to second the motion.

Mr. ALLAN: I think we are about to adjourn.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr. ALLAN: As to how we came to be here in the first place I think we owe it to yourself, Mr. Chairman, or your steering committee.

The CHAIRMAN: The steering committee.

Mr. ALLAN: The steering committee. I want on my own behalf, and I am sure on behalf of the other members of the Indian affairs administration, to thank you for the opportunity, and for the extreme courtesy and helpfulness which you have shown to us. Speaking for myself I came over here with some feelings of trepidation. I had visualized that this committee would tear the hide off Indian affairs administration. I had the idea in the back of my head that possibly unknown to us, and sometimes not unknown to us, we were being very severely criticized for our conduct of the department, and that we were going to be taken to task for the many things we hear of, some of them things which appear inconsequential, not of themselves, but because of the relationship that they bear to things that appear to us to be of prime importance in the administration and pursuit of our duties.

I think that the gentlemen who have attended here with me will agree that whatever the result of this may be it has been very helpful to all members of the administration who have sat through it. We are very prone possibly to regard ourselves as a little side show of government. I know we are very earnest in our work; we are very conscientious in our work, and I did not come here to toot our own horn either. Even if nothing should come out of this we are thankful for the opportunity which you have given us to give you a glimpse into what we regard as the important things in Indian administration.

I have listened to presentations by men outside my own service as though I were listening to strangers. We are not close enough to each other. I am quite familiar with Dr. Moore's work because he has been in the limelight

in the department quite prominently in this nutrition work. As to Miss Moodie's work we knew it was going on. I wish right now to compliment Miss Moodie on the splendid presentation she made to your committee. I learned a great deal from her presentation myself, and I have been associated with the department for six or seven years. As to Mr. Hoey you did not get him mad enough. He is an Irishman and if you had got him aroused he would have given you a real talk on Indian education which I know he lives every day of his life.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I wish we had known that sooner.

Mr. ALLAN: But what I got up to say—and I am speaking too much—is to thank you, Mr. Turgeon, and your committee, for the opportunity you have given us and for the very sympathetic and understanding reception we have had from your committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I was just going to mention the great debt of thanks that we, as members of the House of Commons working as an established committee, owe to these men and one woman, Mr. Hoey, Mr. Allan, Dr. Moore, Mr. MacInnes and Miss Moodie, for the enlightenment they gave to us to-day. I not only express thanks to you on behalf of the committee but I throw out a suggestion to the whole House of Commons, particularly to the government part of it. I am convinced by the two days we have had with these gentlemen of the Civil Service, departmental officials, that it would do much to promote public welfare if there were a closer relationship, a more intimate relationship, between the government, the House of Commons, and departmental officials. In a country such as ours the work of parliament and the work of government is carried out through officials, and it is all very closely related; one depends on the other, and the work of either is affected by the work of the other. I as chairman of the committee and naturally as a member of the steering committee who brought about the invitation for you to be with us am extremely gratified by the results obtained, and I appreciate this representative delegation of departmental officials who have come to appear here before this House of Commons committee. I feel that nothing but good will come of it; and I hope that the precedent that we have set, if it is a precedent, in the last few days will be taken up by other parliamentary groups and by other departments of the government as well.

I want to express thanks and appreciation to each of you who gave evidence to us to-day; also to Mr. Ford Pratt, Secretary to the Minister who has stuck throughout the hearing with us; and through you to the Minister and all other members of the department charged with the administration of Indian Affairs.

Mr. MacNICOL: As the only member of the opposition who has sat through this I want to say a word too.

Mrs. NIELSEN: Do you not include me as one of the opposition also?

The CHAIRMAN: There is no opposition in this committee.

Mr. MacNICOL: Pardon me, I should have said as the only member of the official opposition. I am very much pleased with the information that has been imparted not only to us but through press reports throughout the country. Ever since I have come into the House of Commons Indian Affairs seems to have had very little show. I have always taken a very vigorous stand in connection with Indian affairs whenever opportunity presented itself. The opportunity has not presented itself on many occasions because the estimates are brought down on the last days of the session, almost the last hours of the session, and we vote them through without investigation or any report aside from what the minister makes when he brings in his estimates.

I have visited many of the reserves sincerely inquiring into what can be done to improve them. What these witnesses have placed before us bears out

what I have found myself; that teaching, the educational system, is not what it should be; that the accounting system is not what it should be; that the nursing system and the training generally is not what we would like it to be. And I say, as I have said before, it is because the estimates have been starved, and due to the way in which the estimates have been brought down at the last minute of the Session we have never had the evidence on which to give this matter adequate consideration.

I mentioned some four years ago that a committee should be set up just as Mr. Ross stated to-day, to summon interested parties, including Indian Chiefs from the reserves and Indian agents and others who could give us advice; not for purposes of criticism; we all know that you are doing the best work that you can do with what you have to do with; but I do think we should have a parliamentary committee on Indian Affairs so that we could give something like adequate consideration to this important matter.

And Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you personally for having invited these men here. I think you perhaps had more to do with it than anyone else.

The CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Nielsen, as the only lady member of this committee I think you ought to say a word.

Mrs. NIELSEN: I think, Mr. Chairman, that possibly I have said too much. Perhaps as a squaw I am not supposed to talk too much. I feel that I already have taken up too much time. I would like to assure the departmental officials who have made their submissions that members of the opposition are not always looking for criticism, they do sometimes try to be helpful. Such criticism as we have raised has only been with a view to helping the Indian people to help themselves, and also to enable us to get a better understanding of the administrative problem.

The CHAIRMAN: The committee stands adjourned until the call of the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 5.45 o'clock p.m. to meet again at the call of the chair.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 8585, File 1/1-2-17)

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